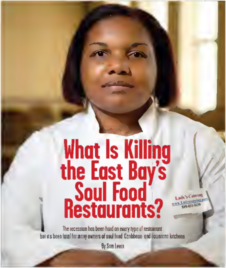
EAST BAY EXPRESS

JULY 8-14, 2009 | EASTBAYEXPRESS.COM



What Is Killing the East Bay's Soul Food Restaurants?

The recession has been hard on every type of restaurant but it's been fatal for many owners of soul food, Caribbean, and Louisiana kitchens

By Sam Levin

THEATER 23

TOO BIG TO SATIRIZE?

In *Too Big to Fail*, the Mime Troupe tries to make sense of the global financial crisis.

By Rachel Swan

Even in the wake of a global financial crisis, most of us aren't any more knowledgeable about it all than we were two years ago. As you go deeper in the trenches of investment banking, the picayune details get harder and harder to understand. To many of us, it's just a morass of key words and algorithms. Subprime loans – bad. Credit default swaps – bad. AIG, Bernie Madoff, and Citibank – bad, bad, bad. Now try dramatizing the rest of the story, as San Francisco Mime Troupe has done in its new play *Too Big to Fail*. Directed by Wilma Bonet and written by the indefatigable Michael Gene Sullivan, it runs through September 27 in parks throughout Northern California. It's a valiant attempt to distill a very abstruse concept into ninety minutes of banter, musical numbers, and social justice messages. *Story inside*

MOVIES 35
DUCK, YOU SUCKERS!
Blood: The Last Vampire is violently ineffective.

Paid Advertisement

Tech Talk

provided by

Janus Networks

LogMeIn IPO Shows Mobile Workforce Is Expanding

by Mielle Sullivan, Janus Networks

It has been a slow year for IPOs especially Venture backed IPOs but LogMeIn excited investors when it went public on Wednesday The offering of the remote access company based in Woburn Massachusetts was so anticipated that analyst John Fitzgibbon said the IPO "should blow the socks of people."

LogMeIn offered its shares at $16 apiece but closed its first day with shares at $20.02 up 26% Such a good opening day scored nearly 10x returns for the four venture firms that together invested $20 million dollars in the company LogMeIn now has a market cap of $428 million

Founded in 2003 LogMeIn has poised itself to profit from an increasingly mobile and decentralized workforce Mobile broadband growth in particular has accelerated this trend and adoption rates will only continue to speed up. As the need for remote access intensifies companies have began to look for tools proactively -- all of this is very good for LogMeIn

Some analysts believe today's success could prompt dormant VCs to start investing in technology again Despite a slow year overall every tech related IPO in 2009 has gained in the first day of trading Innovation it seems, always draws dollars, even in tough times.

You can contact the Author at press@janusnetworks com

Read our blog. **janusnetworks.wordpress.com**

Follow us in twitter **janusnetworks**

Microsoft Small Business Specialist

Janus Networks, Inc
EMAIL sales@janusnetworks com
888.836.2310

Microsoft GOLD CERTIFIED Partner

CONTENTS

NEWS & OPINION

4 **Letters**
5 **Endorsements** Vote yes on C, D, F and H.
6 **Seven Days** The return of pizza, beer, and a movie
7 **Eco Watch** Cap and lose?
9 **News** The corporate co-opt of food
11 **Feature** What is killing the East Bay's soul food restaurants?

ARTS & CULTURE

16 **Culture Spy** *Hi-Fructose magazine.*
17 **Event & Attraction Listings** Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo at Rowell Ranch Arena
19 **Museum & Gallery Listings** Kelsey Nicholson and Ken Fandel at Traywick Contemporary.
21 **Theater & Dance Listings**
23 **Theater** *Too Big to Fail* at Bay Area parks.
24 **Lectures & Literary Listings** Jason Rua at Moe's Books.
25 **Body & Soul Listings** Meditation retreat at Berkeley Buddhist Monastery.
27 **Aquarian Age**

FOOD & DRINK

30 **Dining Review** La Furia Chalaca
31 **Restaurants & Cafes**
33 **Wineau** Big reds down under
34 **Food & Wine Listings**

MOVIES

35 **Movie Reviews** *Blood: The Last Vampire* and *The Country Teacher*
35 **Movie Listings**
37 **One-Night Stands**

MUSIC

39 **Oakland Metro**
42 **Festival of the Drums** At the Stork Club
43 **CD Reviews** Donnie Williams and Park Place, Tortoise and Wilco.
43 **Local Licks** Wild Bunch, Bray Adam Hancock and Family and Trix Rek 500
44 **Concerts & Club Listings**
50 **DJ & Dance Listings**

EXTRAS

51 **Savage Love**

On the Cover *Roslynn Lady Desuk. Photo by Stephen Loewinsohn*

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Publishing 50,000 papers weekly

Editorial
Editor Stephen Buel
Managing Editor Kathleen Wentz
Staff Writer Robert Gammon
Staff Writer/Calendar Editor Jordan Sure
Clubs Editor/Editorial Coordinator Nate Seltenrich
Editorial Interns Ellen Cushing, Aubrey Fenton, Sam Levin, Paula Lehman
Proofreader Claudia Bauer
Contributors John Birdsall, Blair Campbell, DeWitt Cheng, Chris Duffey, Rollen Finn, Bore Cil de Rubio, Mathew Green, Andrea Gronvall, Cole Haddon, J.R. Jones, Kirby Kleinert, Eric Klein, J. poet, Anneli Rufus, Jason Victor Serinus, Matthew Stafford, Kelly Vance, Jay Youngdahl

Art & Production
Production Manager Greg Stevens
Graphic Designers Brian Kelly, Nicholas Wong

Business
Publisher Jody Colley
Business Manager Matthew Ayotte
Systems Managers Jason Heinonen
Bay Local Community Organizer Hal Brody

Advertising
Sales & Marketing Director Terry Furry
Sales Manager Scott Rude
Account Executives Ron Gramberg, Jessica Leventhal, Marie Ortega, Brent Ringwood, Tiffany Vail
Marketing Manager Sarah Hamrell

The *East Bay Express* is the local alternative to mainstream media. We seek to provide truth, expose wrongdoing, and give voice to the powerless. We are dedicated to free time and culture. We aim for the highest standards in our journalism and business practices. As an independent local business, we want to help improve the health of the East Bay economy and environment. The *Express* provides a flexible work atmosphere where employees are respected and developed.

620 3rd St.,
Oakland, CA 94607
Phone 510-879-3700 **Fax** 510-879-3794
National advertising 888-2-RUXTON **Fax** 808-239-4806

The Express is free of charge, one copy per reader. To purchase additional copies for $1 [illegible] East Bay Publishing LLC, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607 [illegible] East Bay Publishing LLC. All rights reserved.

be someone's hero. be extraordinary. change lives, starting with yours. find your inner athlete. get off the couch. get out of your comfort zone. leave impossible behind. create a world without cancer. meet like-minded people. be inspired.

train. endure. achieve. matter.

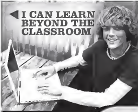
Attend an Information Meeting near you to learn more.

800.78.TRAIN

teamintraining.org/sf

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society®
TEAM
IN TRAINING®

Walk or Run, Half or Full Marathons • Triathlons • 100-mile Cycle Rides


I CAN LEARN BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Students throughout northern California have a new option for earning their diplomas. It's called Delta Pacific Online School. This free, online program is backed by real teachers and real support, including a personalized learning approach for student success. Students are empowered by a trained mentor team of Educational Coordinators and Student Achievement Coordinators. Plus they earn a real diploma. Now, students grades 6-12 can finish what they started on their own schedule. Whether they've dropped out, are on the brink, or just need another option, this program caters to the modern student. Check it out today.

What you get:
- One-on-one attention from California certified teachers
- Flexible, interactive online classes on your schedule
- An online classroom with no distractions
- A school-supplied laptop and internet allowance if needed
- 24/7 technical support
- A nationally and regionally accredited program
- Educational and Student Achievement Coordinators

DELTA PACIFIC ONLINE SCHOOL

Brought to you by Delta Charter School

Availability is limited. Contact us today at www.DeltaPacificOnline.com or call 1-877-553-7421

NOW ENROLLING!

NEWS & OPINION

LETTERS

[illegible]

More, Please

This is a great story FOR OUR TIMES and the only disappointment was that I could have kept on reading more!! It's been a long time since my eyes didn't glaze over trying to slog through yet another *East Bay Express* feature story. Please, more on this story and more from this writer!

Blake Coffey, Oakland

[illegible] 6/10

Our Legacy Is Strong

The editors of this newspaper may think it's OK to allow a writer who failed to come up with an original/creative/independent thought to produce an article filled with misinformation, stereotypes, and political buttons, but it's not.

For starters, the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival committee was founded by RD Bonds, a well-respected businessman in the south Berkeley community who in the 1970s owned, among other businesses, a book store located directly across the street from old Merritt College on Martin Luther King Jr. Way, which sold black books and newspapers. RD Bonds believed in giving back to the community and improving the image of the black community by promoting the black experience in a positive light. The celebration of Juneteenth in Berkeley was an idea which RD thought filled this need. Since his death in 1995 countless volunteers have stepped up to keep the momentum of the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival going. The assumption that the Berkeley Juneteenth committee is clueless about what the city wants from us is far from the truth. Year after year we have risen to the challenge of dwindling resources, gentrification, neighborhood rifts, and a changing political climate. Yet another hurdle that had to be overcome was changing the day of the event from Father's Day. The Berkeley Juneteenth Festival is a much-needed and wanted event that is a staple for the black community and well-attended by the entire community. We are proud of our following and equally proud of the fact that attendance has been continuous, steady, and strong.

What the writer calls "cracker jack bands" is a cornerstone of our belief that the BJF should be used as a vehicle to showcase up-and-coming acts and provide them with the opportunity to show the community what they got. However, we are proud of the fact that in prior years local talents like John Handy, Faye Carol, and Pharoah Sanders have graced our stage. For future reference, a writer who incorrectly reports the date of an event she's writing about weakens her own credibility.

Delores Cooper Edwards, Berkeley

[illegible]

Don't Ignore the Future

In your June 10 edition, Robert Gammon wrote, "To most gays and lesbians, the polygamy argument is an offensive canard." Instead of taking offense, they ought to reply thoughtfully.

Many same-sex-marriage proponents have no wish for polygamy. But they are part of a movement, and that movement has no consensus on monogamy. For example, Jay Newberry writes: "Marriage does not have to be a monogamous relationship. What's monogamy got to do with marriage?" (SF Bay Guardian, July 2, 2008. Newberry clearly supports same-sex marriage.) Proponents of same-sex marriage can't expect the polygamy argument to go away until they make solid replies. Part of a solid reply is explaining why views like Newberry's will not prevail.

Also, Ted Boutrous thinks that worries about polygamy are illegitimate because his clients aren't claiming polygamy as a right. That's ignoring the future, which might well include other clients making claims that cite same-sex marriage in support of polygamy. Similarly, Boutrous notes that no court has called polygamy a right. Has the absence of precedent prevented people from asserting rights, and later finding courts that will agree with them?

Carl Anderson, Oakland

Another Form of Bigotry

Why do supporters of same-sex marriage get apoplectic whenever someone brings up plural marriage? ("To most gays and lesbians, the polygamy argument is an offensive canard designed to demonize them ...") How am I demeaning or harming anyone by marrying whomever I choose? If we believe in marriage equality, then it includes those who wish to enter into plural marriage. Those who oppose plural marriage are just as bigoted as those who oppose same-sex marriage.

Mark Johnson, Berkeley

Correction

In our July 1 restaurant review of the Mayflower in Berkeley, the food item depicted in the picture was the "veggie mango chicken," not the "veggie fish."

ANNAPURNA
Early
Open at 10am everyday
Long
Since 1969
Late
Closed 10pm Sun - Thurs
11pm Fri and Sat.
WINNER '08
annapurnalive.com
2416 TELEGRAPH AVE. BERKELEY

OUR ERASER DOES NOT SWIM
AS LOW AS 50¢!
Ichiban Kan EL CERRITO STORE
10562 san pablo ave. el cerrito
@ moeser lane in Jay Vee Center
tel 528-5210 open 10 am - 7 pm

RELAX. TAKE A 60 MINUTE VACATION
COUPLES • SINGLES
FAMILIES ARE WELCOME
THE HOT TUBS
$10 Off
1918 UNIVERSITY AVE • BERKELEY • 510-843-4343

Cycles of Change
APC Bike Shop
DONATE YOUR BIKE
Support a non-profit community bike shop!
All donations are tax deductible
(510) 898-7830
650 W. Ranger Ave, Alameda

ENDORSEMENTS

VOTE YES ON C, O, F, AND H

Without the much-needed funds from these ballot proposals, Oakland will have to gut city services — again

The Oakland City Council made some tough choices when it adopted a budget that bridged an $83 million budget gap. The council slashed city services across the board, and convinced employee unions to take a 10 percent cut in compensation. The council even took on the city's sacred cow — the police department, cutting its budget by 10 percent. But if the four ballot measures in this month's mail-in election go down to defeat, the city will have to gut services even more.

The most controversial of the ballot proposals is Measure D. It would modify Measure OO, the truly awful ballot initiative from last November's election. Measure OO forces the city to set $5.1 million — money it doesn't have — for kids programs on top of the $10 million it already spends. Measure D would reduce the set asides, saving the city about $3.7 million next year.

Opponents of Measure D believe that Measure OO should simply be overturned. And while we were against Measure OO too, we think it's unlikely that voters will repeal it so soon. Moreover, mounting a campaign against kids programs would be difficult in a liberal town like Oakland, and Measure OO supporters are politically formidable. Defeating them outright is unrealistic.

Plus, those same supporters are now backing Measure D, after reaching a compromise with the city council. That makes the passage of Measure D much more likely. In addition, we think it's unlikely that Oakland residents would vote to turn down a compromise proposal like Measure D and then vote to overturn Measure OO. Measure C may be the second most controversial of the ballot proposals. It would increase the city's hotel tax 3 percent, from 11 percent to 14 percent, raising about $2.8 million next year. The revenues would be given to the Oakland Convention and Visitors Bureau (50 percent), the Oakland Zoo (12.5 percent), the Oakland Museum of California (12.5 percent), the Chabot Space and Science Center (12.5 percent), and city cultural arts programs and festivals (12.5 percent).

Measure F would increase the tax on medical marijuana sales from $1.20 per $1,000 of gross receipts to $18 per $1,000. It's a 1,400 percent increase, but Oakland's pot clubs support it. It will not only raise nearly $300,000 for the city next year, but it will help solidify the legitimacy of medical cannabis.

And finally, Measure H would close a loophole that allows corporate entities to avoid property transfer tax on real estate when the ownership of the entity changes during a merger, consolidation, or acquisition. The measure could raise as much as $4.4 million a year for the city, if past lost revenue is any indication.

In all, the four measures could generate $11.2 million for the city next year. Make sure you mail in your ballot soon; the deadline for receiving them is July 21. ●

goodwill
Come See Our
New Look!
Reopening Celebration
July 11
9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Free ecobag for first 200 customers
- Door crashing specials on exciting products while supplies last
- Free drawing for iPod Touch, Nano & Shuffle 6:00 p.m. (must be in attendance to win)
Events will be held at these newly renovated Goodwill locations:
Antioch: 2701 W. 10th St
Fairfield: 1819 North Texas St
Oakland Plant: 2925 E. 14th St
Berkeley: 2058 University Ave
North Oakland: 6624 San Pablo Ave
Pleasant Hill: 1699 Contra Costa Blvd
Bring your donations when you come to shop!
www.eastbaygoodwill.org

Celebrating 35 Years of Magical Music
George Cleve – Music Director
Midsummer
MOZART
Festival
July 16 – 26, 2009
Two extraordinary programs, five celebrated soloists, and three of Mozart's best-loved Symphonies—all are part of the Festival experience this year—and we hope you will be too.
Join us for our Berkeley concerts on July 19 & 26 at the First Congregational Church.
TICKETS START AT JUST $30!
GET YOURS TODAY – CALL OR CLICK:
800.838.3006 OR midsummermozart.org
Santa Clara • San José • San Francisco • Sonoma • Berkeley
2009 SEASON SPONSORS
David W. Packard
HEWLETT
Arts
KQED
EAST BAY EXPRESS
The Mercury News

SEVEN DAYS

THE RETURN OF PIZZA, BEER, AND A MOVIE

The Cerrito Theater will reopen next week and the Parkway Theater may reopen later this year. Plus, oil prices, IOUs, unemployment, and gay marriage.

By Robert Gammon and Nate Seltenrich

When the Parkway Theater shuttered its doors this spring, followed closely by the closure of its sister cinema in El Cerrito, it looked as if the era of watching a movie while eating pizza and drinking beer was over. Theaters owners Catherine and Kyle Fischer just couldn't make a go of it. But the Cerrito Theater is set to reopen next week under new management, and the Parkway could be back in business later this year with a new theater operator, too.

First credit should go to El Cerrito's City Council and the redevelopment agency. Immediately after the Fischers closed the Cerrito on May 22, the city moved rapidly to find a new operator, selecting Rialto Theaters, operator of the Elmwood Theater in Berkeley. The Cerrito is slated to officially reopen July 15, and its first movie will be the latest Harry Potter flick — *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*, with the initial showing scheduled to be just after midnight on Tuesday, July 14.

Unfortunately, the pizza and beer won't be available on day one, but they're on the way, said Melissa Hathaway, Rialto's director of marketing and community relations. In addition, the former IT Club is to be rechristened as a wine and tapas bar. El Cerrito Redevelopment Manager Lori Trevino said they hope to create a community theater much like the Elmwood with a mix of community events, independent films, and first-run wide releases like *Harry Potter*.

As for the Parkway, it is making strides toward reopening later this year. Potential operator Motion Picture Heritage is working with Oakland's Redevelopment Agency, said past and likely future Parkway programmer Will Viharo. The biggest roadblock, Viharo said, is the condition of the 85-year-old theater. A preliminary inspection revealed a number of problems that could be costly to repair, including a leaky roof.

Jobless Rate Soars, Oil Prices Drop

So is the recession ending? If national unemployment figures are any indication, the answer is no. The jobless rate in June jumped to 9.5 percent, the highest it's been in 26 years. In total, the nation has lost 6.5 million jobs since the recession officially began in December 2007. *The San Francisco Chronicle* reported that it was the first time since the Great Depression that an economic downturn had wiped out all of the job gains from the previous boom cycle.

But not all the news was bad. The unemployment figures were credited with sending oil prices downward. Oil dropped $3 to just below $64 a barrel earlier this week, and some experts believe prices could fall further.

IOUs and State Parks

Because of budget gridlock in Sacramento, the state started sending out $3.36 billion in IOUs last week and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a fiscal emergency as California's budget deficit grew to $26.3 billion. The governor also ordered state workers to take a third unpaid furlough day a month to save $425 million this year. The state's deficit grew by $2 billion after lawmakers failed to meet a July 1 deadline that would have allowed the state to save money on education.

The inability of Democrats and Republicans to strike a budget compromise continues to imperil state parks. According to the *San Jose Mercury News*, the National Park Service threatened to seize some parks and possibly auction them off if California goes through with the governor's plan to close most of them to save money. The park service said the park closures would violate two federal laws.

Hope for Gay Marriage

A judge overseeing the federal challenge to Proposition 8 has given gay marriage supporters some hope. Federal Judge Vaughn Walker said he will take testimony and review evidence of whether gays and lesbians have been the victims of discrimination over the years and whether the supporters of California's anti-gay marriage law were motivated by antagonism against homosexuals. Because it should be relatively easy to prove both of those issues, the ruling provides hope that he might be sympathetic to the gay marriage cause.

Walker, however, also turned down a request to set aside Prop. 8 while the case moves through the courts. The case is being brought by a Berkeley lesbian couple who is represented by noted lawyers Ted Olson and David Boies.

Three-Dot Roundup

The Oakland City Council fixed an $83 million budget problem last week by making wide-ranging cuts, including slashing the police department by 10 percent. The cut to the cops' budget mirrors reductions that the city made to other city employee unions. ... BART unions, meanwhile, flexed their political muscles, convincing fifteen Democratic legislators from the Bay Area to ask BART management to relax its hard-line stance in contract negotiations. BART brass wants to cut union pay to balance the agency's huge budget deficit. ... According to a new poll, former Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown has opened up a twenty-point lead over San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, his main Democratic rival in next year's governor's race. Brown apparently picked up most of Antonio Villaraigosa's supporters after the Los Angeles mayor decided not to run. ... And the NUMMI auto plant in Fremont could be in trouble now that GM has decided to pull out because of its bankruptcy woes. Toyota, which has run the plant since the 1980s with GM, has not decided whether it will keep it open, although the Japanese automaker apparently has ruled out making Priuses there. ●

Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 92510, which you can find at EastBayExpress.com/Blogs

Print Beautiful.

Postcards. Greeting Cards. Business Cards.

Try our Satin business cards at 50% off!

Satin is a durable, water-resistant coating, and makes your cards feel really, really nice. It's perfect for business cards and for when you want your postcards to have extra impact or a more luxurious feel.

Visit www.4by6.com or call 866.894.8730

Satin Business Card Sale Pricing*

Qty	Offset	Digital
50	[illegible]	[illegible]
100	[illegible]	[illegible]
250	[illegible]	[illegible]
500	[illegible]	[illegible]
1000	[illegible]	n/a

*Use discount code [illegible]. Expires 7/18/09

4by6.com

The Online Postcard Printing System

ECO WATCH

CAP AND LOSE?

An Oakland think tank says the federal climate bill doesn't invest enough in green-energy technology. Plus, an innovative mass-transit company struggles to get noticed.

By Robert Gammon

Throughout the presidential campaign, Barack Obama said the best way to reduce greenhouse gases and spur investment in renewable energy would be to pass a so-called cap-and-trade climate bill. The plan would limit — or cap — carbon dioxide emissions while allowing green energy producers to sell "credits" to the fossil fuel industry. The plan would raise much needed funds for green-tech research and make renewable energy cheaper. But according to a liberal environmental think tank in Oakland, the watered-down version of Obama's plan that recently passed the House of Representatives and is now in the Senate will do more harm than good.

The Breakthrough Institute, which has become one of the most vocal opponents of the climate bill sponsored by Democratic congressmen Henry Waxman and Edward Markey, argues that the legislation fails to generate enough investment in green energy, because it offers too many corporate giveaways. In fact, Michael Shellenberger, president of the Breakthrough Institute, argued that CO2 emissions may actually increase in the next several years if the Waxman-Markey bill becomes law. "If this bill passes the way it is, we're going to be stuck with bad legislation that actually includes incentives to increase emissions rather than decrease them," Shellenberger told Eco Watch.

Climate scientists and green-energy producers generally agree that the US government should invest $20 billion to $30 billion annually over the next few decades to research and develop renewable energy sources and make them competitive with fossil fuels. Obama promised in the campaign to invest $150 billion over ten years — or about $15 billion a year. But according to an analysis by the Breakthrough Institute, the Waxman-Markey bill, also known as the American Clean Energy and Security Act, would only invest $6 billion to $9 billion total each year for clean energy. Of that, just $490 million to $735 million would go to research and development, depending on whether credits sell for $10 or $15 per ton of CO2 produced.

As a result, Shellenberger and others, including the respected Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, argue that the Waxman-Markey bill will fail to address the coming global warming crisis in both the near and long term. Both Brookings and the Breakthrough Institute liken the need to invest in green tech to what the federal government did with the aerospace, microchip, and pharmaceutical industries.

According to critics, the primary reason for why Waxman-Markey comes up short is that it allows the fossil fuel industry to initially obtain free carbon credits, instead of having to buy them at auction. As a result, CO2 producers, particularly coal plants, will have no incentive to buy credits from green-energy companies. The giveaways also will fail to lower emissions, since coal plants can simply use up their free credits instead of slashing CO2, Shellenberger and others argue.

In the past, Obama also has criticized cap-and-trade proposals that give away carbon credits, also known as offsets or permits. "If you're giving away carbon permits for free, then basically you're not really pricing the thing and it doesn't work — or people can game the system in so many ways that it's not creating the incentive structures that we're looking for." Obama's budget director Peter Orszag has been even blunter: "If you didn't auction the permit, it would represent the largest corporate welfare program that has ever been enacted in the United States. In particular, all of the evidence suggests that what would occur is the corporate profits would increase by approximately the value of the permit."

In a recent radio interview with Montel Williams, Waxman said they decided to give away carbon permits in order to keep energy prices low for consumers and gather enough votes in Congress. Waxman noted that if the government forced coal plants to buy the carbon offsets from the start, they would simply pass on the extra costs to ratepayers. As a result, consumers in states that depend heavily on coal — such as the Midwest and the Southeast — would be hit the hardest. Waxman didn't say it explicitly, but he also implied that congressional representatives from coal-dependent states would never go along with a plan that would force their constituents to pay more for energy than residents of other states.

Michael Shellenberger

In fact, Republicans have used the threat of increased energy costs as their main weapon against the bill (along with denying that climate change exists). In addition, the concern about raising energy prices during a recession may convince Senate moderates to oppose the bill, too. The House barely passed the bill 219-212, and the closeness of the vote has convinced many Democrats and environmental groups to support the legislation out of fear that they won't be able to get anything better. Even Obama has lobbied Democrats to vote for the bill and will sign it into law if the Senate passes it.

Moreover, not everyone believes the Waxman-Markey bill will fail. Al Gore supports it, and Paul Krugman, the liberal Nobel Prize-winning economist and columnist for *The New York Times*, has argued that it could still lower greenhouse gas emissions despite its flaws. "Even when polluters get free permits, they still have an incentive to reduce their emissions, so they can sell their excess permits to someone else," Krugman explained in a recent op-ed piece.

But Shellenberger predicts the bill will be watered down further before it becomes law. As a result, he argues that Congress should ditch the plan now and begin talking seriously about levying a tax on carbon and then using the proceeds to invest heavily in green tech. "Technology innovation is the only way to bring prices down," he said of renewable energy.

He's right about that, and he's probably right that the bill will become weaker before it reaches Obama's desk. There's also no doubt that Waxman-Markey is seriously flawed. But it also may be the best we can hope for under the current political and financial climate.

The close vote in the House proves that there is little political will to tackle the global warming crisis head-on. And as inviting as a carbon tax would be, it likely will be tougher to get through Congress than the current bill. Hopefully, Krugman and Gore will turn out to be right. They certainly have been before.

Beating Trains, Buses, and Automobiles

If we were really smart, we also would be investing heavily in innovative new forms of mass transit. In Oakland's Jack London Square, there is one company that deserves notice — CyberTran. The company has developed a sort of smart-car automated train that will take passengers directly to their destinations without having to stop at every station. It combines the advantages of cars, buses, and trains and is greener than each of them.

This is how it works: Say you're at the UC Berkeley campus and want to get to downtown Oakland. First, you walk up to a station and punch in your destination. Within minutes, a single automated twenty-seat train picks you up and sends you down an elevated track covered in solar panels. It travels much more quickly than buses or traditional trains because it doesn't stop at every station between campus and downtown — although you likely would stop to pick up passengers who want to go to the same destination as you. But even with those stops, the system travels rapidly, because when a train car pulls into a station, it moves off the main track to allow trains behind it to speed past.

Neil Sinclair, chairman and CEO of CyberTran, also said the system is much cheaper to build than traditional rail and light rail. It's also competitive with Bus Rapid Transit and doesn't require two lanes of traffic. Currently, rail systems cost about $100 million per mile, but Sinclair says a CyberTran system can be built for about $40 million per mile, because it requires much less infrastructure, and because the train cars are smaller and much lighter since they're not linked together like traditional train or light rail cars. The elevated tracks also take up much less space because CyberTran is so light it doesn't require a huge support structure.

CyberTran has actually been around for more than a decade. It was the brainchild of John Dearien, a onetime senior engineer with the US Department of Energy. But over the years, the company has struggled for attention. The reason is that public transportation agencies are extremely reluctant to experiment with untested products, Sinclair explained. In fact, CyberTran can't qualify for most competitive bid processes because it has yet to actually build a full-blown system. "It's a Catch-22," Sinclair said. "You can't enter into an RFP until you build it." So far, the company has stayed afloat thanks to private investment and grants from the Energy Department and from the US Department of Transportation.

Sinclair said that the company has been working with several cities to try to obtain a federal grant for a test project. Still, for CyberTran to catch on, Sinclair acknowledges it's going to take a courageous local agency willing to make a significant gamble. ■

Got green ideas? Send tips for stories to EcoWatch@EastBayExpress.com

Train with Solar Staffing.
Attend ongoing classes and begin your Career in solar now!
Offering classes in English and En Español.
Enroll at
www.SolarStaffing.com
or call 866-545-5441
SOLAR STAFFING
Green Employment & Training Solutions

FIGHT CLUB - MEMBERS ONLY!
NOT GOING TO TAKE IT ANYMORE?
PERSONAL INJURY
EMPLOYMENT
CONSUMER FRAUD
TWENTY YEARS OF
LAW OFFICES OF
MATTHEW J. WITTEMAN
www.WittLegal.com
East Bay - San Francisco
(877) WITTLAW (948-8529)
FREE CONSULTATION

JP Painting Company
License #541260
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
Well established business with all the equipment and the knowhow to provide you with answers to your painting/preparation/color problems, giving you the results you desire.
"FREE ESTIMATES on residential and commercial. Special FX painting, Faux Finish."
Satisfaction guaranteed. Many References. Thousands of photos.
MENTION THIS AD AND GET A
20% Discount
Juan Verdo
510-524-4366
juan1234@sbcglobal.net

Gilman Collision Repair
Accidents Happen!
Local
Trustworthy
Advanced
www.gilmancollision.com

THE CORPORATE CO-OPT OF LOCAL

As "buy local" movements gain in strength, big-box retailers and national manufacturers are trying to redefine the terms of the debate

Stacy Mitchell

HSBC, one of the biggest banks on the planet, has taken to calling itself "the world's local bank." Winn-Dixie, a 500-outlet supermarket chain, recently launched a new ad campaign under the tagline, "Local flavor since 1956." The International Council of Shopping Centers, a global consortium of mall owners and developers, is pouring millions of dollars into television ads urging people to "Shop Local" — at their nearest mall. Even Wal-Mart is getting in on the act, hanging bright green banners over its produce aisles that simply say, "Local."

Hoping to capitalize on growing public enthusiasm for all things local, some of the world's biggest corporations are brashly laying claim to the word "local."

This new variation on corporate greenwashing is, like the buy-local movement itself, most advanced in the context of food. Hellmann's, the mayonnaise brand owned by the processed-food giant Unilever, is test-driving a new "Eat Real, Eat Local" initiative in Canada. The ad campaign seems aimed partly at enhancing the brand by simply associating Hellmann's with local food. But it also makes the claim that Hellmann's is local, because most of its ingredients come from North America.

And the movement is now spreading well beyond food. Barnes & Noble has launched a video blog site under the banner "All bookselling is local." The site, which features "local book news" and recommendations from employees of stores in such evocative-sounding locales as Surprise, Arizona, and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, seems designed to disguise what Barnes & Noble is and to present the chain instead as a collection of independent-minded booksellers.

Across the country, scores of shopping malls, chambers of commerce, and economic development agencies are also appropriating the phrase "buy local" to urge consumers to patronize nearby malls and big-box stores. In March, leaders of a new Buy Local campaign in Fresno assembled in front of the Fashion Fair Mall for a kick-off press conference. Flanked by storefronts bearing brand names like Anthropologie and The Cheesecake Factory, officials from the Economic Development Corporation of Fresno County explained that choosing to "buy local" helps the region's economy. For anyone confused by this display, the campaign and its media partners, including Comcast and the *Fresno Bee*, followed the press conference with more than $250,000 worth of radio, TV, and print ads that spelled it out: "Just so you know, buying local means any store in your community: mom-and-pop stores, national chains, big-box stores — you name it."

This Holiday Season
Give Your Community a Gift — Shop Locally for Your Gifts!
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON SHOP SMART. SHOP LOCAL
This message is brought to you by the International Council of Shopping Centers, Inc.

Brought to you by those neighborly folks at the International Council of Shopping Centers.

In one way, all of this is good news for local economy advocates. It represents the best empirical evidence yet that the grassroots movement for locally produced goods and independently owned businesses now sweeping the country is having a measurable impact on the choices people make. "Think of the millions of dollars these big companies spend on research and focus groups," observed Dan Cullen of the American Booksellers Association, a trade group for independent bookstores. "They wouldn't be doing this on a hunch."

Signs abound that consumer preferences are trending local. Locally grown food has soared in popularity. The United States is now home to 4,685 active farmers' markets, one-third of which were started since 2000. Food co-ops and neighborhood greengrocers are on the rise. Driving is down, while data from several metropolitan regions shows that houses located within walking distance of small neighborhood stores have held value better than those isolated in the suburbs where the nearest gallon of milk is a five-mile drive to Target.

A growing number of independent businesses are trumpeting their local ownership and community roots and reporting a surge in customer traffic as a result. In April, even as Virgin Megastores prepared to shutter its last US record store, independent music stores across the country were mobbed for the second annual *Record Store Day*. A celebration of local music retailers that featured in-store concerts and exclusive releases, the event drew hundreds of thousands of music fans into stores, was one of the top search terms on Google, and triggered a sixteen-point upswing in album sales, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

In city after city, independent businesses are organizing and creating what could become a powerful counterweight to the big business lobbies that have long dominated public policy. Local business alliances — like Stay Local in New Orleans, the Metro Independent Business Alliance in Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Arizona Local First in Phoenix — have now formed in more than 130 cities and collectively count some 30,000 businesses as members. Through grassroots "buy local" and "local first" campaigns, these alliances are calling on people to choose independent businesses and local products more often and making the case that doing so is critical to rebuilding middle-class prosperity and ensuring that our daily lives are not smothered by corporate uniformity.

Surveys and anecdotal reports from business owners suggest these initiatives are changing spending patterns. A survey of 1,100 independent retailers conducted in January by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance found that, amid the worst economic downturn since the Depres-

EAST BAY EXPRESS

EAST BAY EXPRESS
localbizblogs
Give your biz a voice on the web.

Express LocalBizBlogs provides essential tools needed to bring your business or organization to the social web and it's easy. Fast and affordable. LocalBizBlogs can act as your primary website, or compliment the one you have.

www.EastBayExpress.com/LocalBizBlogs

sion, buy-local sentiment is giving local businesses an edge over their chain competitors. While the Commerce Department reported that retail sales plunged almost 10 percent over the holidays, the survey found that independent retailers in cities with buy-local campaigns saw sales drop an average of just 3 percent.

None of this has escaped the notice of corporate executives and the consumer research firms that advise them. Several of these firms have begun to track the localization trend. In its annual consumer survey, the New York-based branding firm BBMG found that the number of people reporting that it was "very important" to them whether a product was grown or produced locally jumped from 26 to 32 percent in the last year alone.

"Food is one of the biggest gateways, but we're seeing this idea of 'local' spread across other categories and sectors," said Michelle Barry, senior vice president of the Hartman Group. A report published by Hartman last year noted, "There is a belief that you can only be local if you are a small and unknown brand. This isn't necessarily true; big brands can use the notion of local to their advantage as well." Barry added, "Big companies have to be much more creative in how they articulate local. ... It's a different way of thinking about local that is not quite as literal."

One way corporations can be "local" is by stocking a token amount of locally grown produce, as Wal-Mart has done in some of its supercenters. The chain's local food offerings are usually limited to a few of the main commodity crops of that particular state — peaches in Georgia or potatoes in Maine — and sit amid a sea of industrial food and other goods shipped from the far side of the planet. Yet this modest gesture has won Wal-Mart glowing coverage in numerous daily newspapers.

Wal-Mart, like other chains, has learned that, with consumers increasingly motivated to support companies they perceive to be acting responsibly, tossing around the word "local" is a far less expensive way to convey civic virtue than the alternatives. "Local is one of the lower-hanging fruits in terms of sustainability," Barry said. "It's easier for companies to do than to improve how their employees are treated or adopt a specific sustainability practice around their carbon footprint, for example."

Other companies are pushing marketing messages that work by association. One example that caught Dan Cullen's eye was a CVS television commercial that begins in a Main Street bookshop, following the owner around as she tends to her customers. The bookshop then transforms into a CVS. The bookshop owner is now the customer. The feel is still very much Main Street. "Suddenly the kind of unique, engaging, grassroots bookstore experience morphs into a CVS experience," Cullen said. "There's a Potemkin facade that a lot of chains are trying to put up because consumers now want something other than a cookie-cutter experience."

Still another corporate strategy is to redefine the term "local" to mean not locally owned or locally produced, but just nearby. "With the term 'local' being so nebulous, it seems ripe for manipulation," noted Mintel, another consumer research firm that counsels companies on how to "craft marketing messages that appeal to locally conscious consumers" and how to avoid "charges of 'local washing.'"

Corporate-oriented buy-local campaigns that define "local" as the nearest Lowe's or Gap store are now being rolled out in cities nationwide. Some represent desperate bids by shopping malls to survive the recession and fend off online competition. Others are the work of chambers of commerce trying to remain relevant. Still others are the half-baked plans of municipal officials casting about for some way to stop the steep drop in sales tax revenue.

Many of these Astroturf campaigns are modeled directly on grassroots initiatives. "They copy our language and tactics," said Michelle Long, executive director of Sustainable Connections, a seven-year-old coalition of 600 independent businesses in northwest Washington state that runs a very visible and successful "local first" program. "I get calls from chambers and other groups who say, 'We want to do what you are doing.' It took me a while to realize that what they had in mind was not what we do. Once I realized, I started asking them, what do you mean by 'local'?"

Examples abound. In Northern California, the Arcata Chamber of Commerce is producing "Shop Local" ads that look similar to the Humboldt County Independent Business Alliance's "Go Local" ads, except they feature both independents and chains. Spokane's Buy Local program, started by the local chamber, is open to any business in town, including big-box stores. Logon to the Buy Local web site created by the chamber in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and you will find Wal-Mart among the listings.

When billboards proclaiming "Buy Local Orlando" first appeared in Orlando, Florida, Julie Norris, a cafe owner who last year co-founded Ourlando, an initiative to support indie businesses, was excited to see the concept getting such visibility. But she soon realized that the city-funded program, which provides businesses who join with a "Buy Local" decal, seminars at the Disney Entrepreneur Center and a listing on the web site, was open to any business in Orlando. "We sat down with the city and said, 'What you guys are doing is a real disservice to the local business movement,'" she said.

The city did agree to remove from its press materials and web site a reference to a study that found that, for every $100 spent locally, $45 stays in the community. The problem was that the study, conducted by the firm Civic Economics, found that to be true only if the money was spent at a locally owned business. Shop at a chain store, the analysis found, and only $13 of that $100 spent stays in the community.

The Economic Development Corporation of Fresno County also appropriated the $45-stays-local statistic when it kicked off its Buy Local campaign at the Fashion Fair Mall. The figure was repeated on a TV news story without any clarification that it did not apply to the types of chains visible in the background. Like the Orlando initiative, the Fresno campaign aims to boost sales tax revenue by deterring online and out-of-town shopping. It goes out of its way in every radio and TV spot to make sure people know that "local" means national chains and big-box stores. "Buy Local" stickers and posters are now visible on malls and chains throughout the Central Valley. "For someone to say you are not local if you are a big box, I say, baloney," explained Steve Geil, CEO of the Economic Development Corporation. "They invested here."

When the City of Santa Fe decided to launch a campaign to encourage people to shop locally, the Santa Fe Alliance, a coalition of more than 500 locally owned businesses that has been running a buy-local initiative for several years, signed on. But the city's message, according to Kate Noble, a city staffer who runs the program, is that shopping at Wal-Mart is fine, as long as it's not Walmart.com. "It has only diluted our message and confused people," complained

have you seen the savings?
Now accepting more insurance plans than ever!
$100 OFF
$99
30 YEARS

Site for Sore Eyes
2174 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley (510) 841-6963
SiteForSoreEyes.com
Book an eye exam appointment online today

CROSSROADS TRADING CO.
BERKELEY: 2338 shattuck av 510 843 7600 OAKLAND 5636 college av 510 420 1952

ECOLOGY CENTER'S

BERKELEY FARMERS' MARKETS

For More Information

COMMUNITY BBQ

Tuesday, July 14, 2pm-7pm

Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Derby St @ Martin Luther King, Jr. Way

HOT OFF THE GRILL

Market Meats, Veggie Treats, Barbecued Oysters, Peach Cobbler, Carrot Salad and Lemonade too!

MUSIC TO YOUR EARS

Live music by Captain Mike & the Sea Kings

Drawing with Fergus and The Old Band

The Heart of the Fresh, Local Food Movement Since 1987

a program of

BY HAND

WOMEN'S & MEN'S CLOTHING

BY HAND

1741 Solano Ave. Berkeley

510-526-3212

Hours Mon Sat 10 6 Sun 12 5

SUMMER CLEARANCE

Starts July 18

Sorry sale prices not available retroactively

Become a Paralegal

in as little as six months

Prepare for a new career and put Berkeley on your resumé. Find out how at a FREE Information Session

July 14 in **San Francisco**
5:30–7 pm
Art and Design Center
95 Third St

July 15 in **Berkeley**
5:30–7 pm
Golden Bear Center
1995 University Ave.

Reserve your space today
www.unex.berkeley.edu/paralegal
(510) 642 4111

UC Berkeley Extension
Be Your Best with Berkeley

Vicki Pozarhan, director of the Alliance. "The city asked me not to push the $45 versus $13, but just say 'local,'" she added.

These sales-tax-driven campaigns may well be doing more harm to local economies than good, according to Jeff Milchen, co-founder of the American Independent Business Alliance, a national organization that helps communities start and grow local business alliances. "If you encourage people to shop at a big box store that takes sales away from an independent business, you're just funneling more dollars out of town, because unlike chains local businesses buy lots of goods and services, like accounting and printing, from other local businesses."

The irony of trying to solve declining city revenue by trying to get people to shop at the local mall is that the mall itself may be the problem. While many California cities are facing budget cuts and even bankruptcy, Berkeley has managed to post a small increase in revenue. Part of the reason, according to city officials, is that Berkeley has more or less said no to shopping malls and big chain stores and is instead a city of locally owned businesses that primarily serve local residents. That creates a much more stable revenue base. Berkeley hasn't benefited from the temporary boom that a new regional mall might create, but neither has it gone bust.

Can corporations succeed in co-opting or muddling the term local that it no longer has meaning? The Hartman Group's Barry thinks that's possible. "For many consumers, these things are not being called into question much. They say, 'Hey, it's my local Wal-Mart or my local Frito-Lay truck.' It depends where you are on the continuum and how you define local, which is a term that is really up for grabs."

Milchen is less concerned about what he calls faux local campaigns in cities where there is already a strong local business organization. "It's more of an educational opportunity than a problem, so long as they respond to it," he said. But in places where local enterprises are not organized, he fears these corporate campaigns may succeed in permanently defining "local" for their own benefit. Michelle Long shares that concern. "That's my fear. People are going to do diluted versions and hold the space so that real campaigns don't get started."

Such dilution has prompted local business advocates to reconsider their language. Many are now using the word "independent" more than "local." Controlling language is critical, said Ronnie Cummins, director of the Organic Consumers Association, who is pushing for tighter regulation of the word organic, as well as rules governing terms like natural, sustainable, and local. "We've been fighting so long without the help of federal regulators that some people have forgotten that tool."

Perhaps all of this will ultimately make corporations even more suspect and further the case for shifting our economy in the direction of small-scale, local, and independent. "I think the fact that the chains are trying to play the local card in a way makes it easier for us," said Cullen of the American Booksellers Association. "I think people are going to recognize that these aren't authentic and that's going to make the real thing all the more powerful." ●

Stacy Mitchell is a senior researcher with the New Rules Project of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance and serves on the board of the American Independent Business Alliance. She is the author of Big-Box Swindle: The True Cost of Mega-Retailers and the Fight for America's Independent Businesses.

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com.

HW
HARLAN WONG, O.D.

EYE EXAM + CONTACTS OR GLASSES

$119

EYE EXAM + DISPOSABLE CONTACT LENSES

$154

1828 SHATTUCK, BERKELEY
510.843.4930

VitaminExpress
A trustworthy name since 1982

Your vitamin specialty shop!

From Jarrow
Guaranteed Potency
30 Caps
Reg 24.95
SALE 17.95

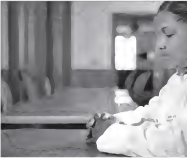
1400 Shattuck Avenue @ Rose
Berkeley (510) 841 1780

Mail order (800) 500-0733
or online at VitaminExpress.com

BROADWAY PET HOSPITAL

We now offer our clients secure online access to all your pet's health information.
Call to learn more or visit:
www.broadwaypethospital.com

(510) 653 8212 4920 Broadway Oakland



Roslynn Lady Decuir finally attained her goal, only to see it slip away during the recession.

Stephen Loewinsohn

What Is Killing the East Bay's Soul Food Restaurants?

The recession has been hard on restaurants of every type, but it's been particularly hard on the owners of soul food, Caribbean, or Louisiana kitchens. By Sam Levin

When she was sixteen years old, Roslynn Lady Decuir said a prayer to God. She prayed that some day she would own a restaurant. She imagined her own menu, storefront sign, and kitchen. Cooking was her passion; the Oakland native had always cooked for herself and for her family. But her dream was to run her own restaurant, doing what she loved in the kitchen while serving loyal locals cuisine of her making. "It was my dream," she said. "I said, 'One day I am going to have my own family shop.'"

She started her journey modestly at a To-go sandwich shop in Oakland. But she quickly rose through the ranks to manager at just sixteen, and found herself the boss of employees already much older than herself. During tireless years of studying, catering, and managing joints all over the East Bay, she continually set aside money for her goal. And sure enough, in February of 2006, 25 years after taking that first managing job — her dream came to fruition inside the lobby of downtown Oakland's Latham Square Building.

The path to opening the doors of her restaurant Lady's Place was steep enough, but the frightening battle to keep those doors open was unlike anything she had ever anticipated or experienced. The hard-earned dollars she had saved during years of corporate catering proved insufficient to sustain her business. After just a single year, Decuir's short-lived fairy tale began slipping from her grasp.

Decuir is just one of many black restaurant owners who have lost the very dreams that they worked so hard to fulfill. Amid the destructive recession of 2008 and 2009, black-owned restaurants in Oakland and Berkeley have closed at a rate greatly disproportionate to that of other restaurants. Of the eight Caribbean joints listed in last year's *East Bay Express* dining guide, half have since shut down. Compare that to one Italian restaurant out of 25 closing its doors, or one out of 28 Japanese/sushi restaurants. Two of four Cajun/Creole restaurants shut down, while only three of the 48 restaurants featuring California Cuisine had to close. The percentage of these black-owned restaurants that have closed is more than five times greater than the overall rate of restaurant closure in the dining guide over the last three years.

East Bay residents have been forced to say good-bye to the Caribbean restaurants Penny's Caribbean Cuisine, Caribbean Cove, Ital Calabash, and the 7th Street Berkeley location of Daniel's Caribbean Kitchen, the soul food restaurants Declancy's Welcome Table and Souley Vegan, the barbecue restaurant Rodrick's BBQ, the African cuisine of Lagenta, Laula's Ethiopian Deli and Lam Taro, and the Louisiana kitchens at T.J.'s Gingerbread House and Roslynn Lady Decuir's Lady's Place.

Industry observers agree that such establishments — both one-person startups and venerable eateries passed down through generations — are uniquely susceptible to the storms of recession. Sometimes the diverse international flavors of the East Bay's dining scene mask the inherent struggles of its multiethnic proprietors. In particular, many black restaurant owners face very distinct challenges.

The slow decline into financial instability is painful for both the owners and customers. In many cases, owners faced a difficult choice concerning a lifetime goal: Walk the path of loans and debt, or face the reality of an unviable business and vacate the kitchen. The financial and emotional drain of a dream swept away is not something that many of these owners will ever forget. The once-open doors of their establishments slowly fade into distant memories of fantasies briefly lived.

Ann Penny Baten made pastries growing up in Trinidad. She baked doughnuts, fried tamales, and sold them independently in her neighborhood. It was a way to make money, but it also was her passion. "I've always been one of those people who is not afraid of adventure," she recalled. Baten began her life's first big adventure in 1982 at age twenty, when she left home for New Jersey with her two-year-old daughter. Many women in her life had stayed home to take care of family, and all her siblings had remained in Trinidad. But Baten wanted something more. "I had a concept in mind," she said. "Everyone always stayed, but I wanted to be different."

In Hoboken, she found a job baking at a Dunkin' Donuts. It was a memorable experience for Baten. "I took the night shift," she said. "It was a lot of fun." She spent years in many different kitchens all across the state. "I worked at bakeries. I waited tables. People are hungry for food and that has always been my form of income."

Years later, the self-professed adventurer sought more change in the form of a cross-country move. In 1990 she headed to the West Coast and settled in Berkeley. She had visited twice before and knew she wanted to stay. She also had a larger dream, yearning to reach a wider market by cooking the foods of her native culture. "I saved my money," she said. "I always wanted that five-star restaurant."

Baten began serving Trinidadian food at the Berkeley flea market. Her customers said they wanted her to have a restaurant. "I sold my food to the Caribbean people there, and they would tell a friend and another friend," she said. So in 2004, together with her business partner Kurt Pacillo — who also is the godfather of her son — she gathered enough money to open her very own joint. She found a small West Berkeley location on a seemingly quiet stretch of Sacramento Street near Oregon Street. Her tiny storefront was wedged in between a little apartment complex and a tarot card reader.

She had

Continued on page 12

MEDICAL ASSISTING

145 YEARS
Heald
Education to Last a Lifetime

Or choose
Dental Assisting
Medical Office Administration
Medical Insurance Billing & Coding

Benefit from what we have to offer
Hands-on learning
Small class sizes
Financial aid for those who qualify
Day and evening classes
Lifetime career services assistance for graduates

Bay Area Campuses
San Francisco • San Jose
Hayward • Concord

CALL TODAY
Classes Forming Now!
1.888.278.8297

www.chooseheald.com

SUMMER JOBS!

To Repeal Prop 8
Earn 1340 to 2140 month.
Work for Grassroots Campaigns Inc on behalf of
Equality California to restore equal rights in CA
F/T and Career. Call Cameron
East Bay 510-848-1754, SF 415-447-9396
Santa Cruz 831-421-9599

What Is Killing the East Bay's Soul Food Restaurants?

Continued from page 11

no trouble coming up with the name: Penny's Caribbean Cuisine. The quaint space with a few masks on the wall and some vases filled with tropical flowers felt more like a living room than a five-star joint. But it was, as she recalled it, "a home away from home" for her, her two children, and her customers.

From the utensils to the flowers, everything was designed to evoke the tropical feel of the Caribbean, even as cars sped by and fights broke out outside her walls on Sacramento Street. Chutney-soca music filled the room, and the environment was warm. Baten and her children would serve the customers and chat with them at the same time. "It had the love and the music," she said. "Everybody would stay for hours."

But the food and not the decor was what made the restaurant a neighborhood magnet. Jerk chicken, goat roti, and aloo pie were some of the native Trinidadian highlights. "And oh my God, we had a lot of cultures in there," she said. While her native Caribbean patrons most appreciated the sounds and smells of the restaurant, Baten said her seats were filled with a diverse base of customers.

Baten had personally invested $40,000 in her restaurant, allocating every last dime in her pocket. "I definitely would have liked a lot more — at least $100,000 to start," she said. But she put in what she could, and after Picillo invested another $20,000, they had just enough to open their doors to the community. What they did not have was any emergency money. And after a few years, the financial emergency arrived.

The factors that lead to closed doors are difficult to measure. The proprietors of Oakland's surviving soul food and Caribbean joints describe many different problems for black-owned restaurants in the East Bay. These are inherent challenges that exist with or without recession — but with recession, of course, they are magnified and multiplied.

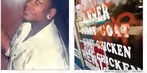
Peter Jackson, the executive chef at Miss Pearl's Jam House — a white-owned Caribbean restaurant of 8,000 square feet in Jack London Square — said his restaurant survives thanks to its busy location and large menu. But he is also well aware of the challenge of image.

"As far as being Caribbean, the identity is more difficult," he said. The wealthier East Bay populations are far more likely to find themselves in familiar Italian restaurants, he argues, and not often eating curried goat. "They sort of don't give us a chance, and it is not taken as seriously as a cuisine." Jackson, who has been in the local food industry for 25 years, said it is hard to ignore local inequities and how they affect his industry. A disproportionate number of African Americans don't have the money to spend eating out, he said. "Those hit the hardest can't support the cuisine that reflects their culture," he said.

Employees at Nellie's Soul Food on 3rd Street in West Oakland believe that the general perception of their restaurant — which has been run by Nellie Owen and her family for more than thirty years — makes it difficult to market to a wider audience. "People think our food is lower-class dining," said Maudie Foster, a current manager and chef at Nellie's. "They think they can go to better places to get better quality." While this is not always the case, she said, the bottom line is that "most people with money are not spending here." Manager Marcus Cathey, Nellie's grandson, said a lot of the restaurant's customers come from the typically poor flatlands of West Oakland. And during the recession, these customers are coming less and less. Cathey said "cooking out of love" is what keeps the restaurant going.

So how does Nellie's stay alive? Foster said it is just barely surviving. "It is terrible," she said. The restaurant recently had to lay off seven workers, and if the management hadn't done that, the restaurant would have had to close, she said. "I'm not really okay," she admitted. "By the grace of God, we've barely just got by. But really we've got our head just above water."

Kevin Westlye, the executive director of the Golden Gate Restaurant Association, said the current economy has tested local restaurants unlike anything that has occurred in the last 75 years. Nationally, he said, the profit margin for the restaurant industry is a relatively low 4 percent. And in Oakland, where Westlye has spent much of his life, it averages just 2 percent. But for small minority restaurants with



Ann Penny Baten invested $40,000 in Penny's Caribbean Cuisine, but she didn't have an emergency fund.

low capital, he added, it is typically just 0 to 2 percent. "Then you add in a significant recession, and they can go upside down," he said.

Westbye said minority restaurant owners can often be misled into signing leases in B-locations for A-location prices — which can be a death sentence from the start. And with cuisines of niche cultures like Caribbean, Westbye said, there is often only room for one, maybe two competitors. "A restaurant needs to look at how broadly accepted their cuisine is," Westbye said. He believes that very often the restaurants that shut down do not appeal to more than 30 percent of potential diners.

Indeed, the one African American cuisine that seems to be most resilient during the recession is the one with the broadest popular appeal — barbecue. Unlike Caribbean or soul food, barbecue is universally appealing, said Doreen Darling, manager of the 38-year-old Everett and Jones restaurant chain. "It is really the barbecue," Darling said. "Every culture has some form or fashion of it. And it is not too hard on the pocket." But even established mainstays like E&J say they are seeing a lot fewer customers entering their doors.

Stephanie Dalton, who has been working in and managing local restaurants for 25 years and is now a program assistant at a four-year hospitality and management degree program in San Francisco, said there is inherent discrimination in the sector, and it begins with disparities in education. "It's an extremely conservative, old white boys' club," she said. Dalton said that she is constantly frustrated by the lack of diversity she finds in her program. "If you look at the educational programs, we have one student out of twenty that is black," she said. And this lack of education cripples minority owners who are trying to run restaurants.

"That is the bottom line," she continued. "It's shocking and it's pervasive in the industry." Dalton, who has volunteered her consulting services for two Oakland soul food joints, said that a passion for cooking is just not enough. "Food is their soul — they are literally putting their soul out there, but they are not putting a business plan behind it, and until you put the two together you will fail."

Each restaurant closure is the story of a lost dream. The depression these owners face as they say good-bye to their kitchens creates a real personal struggle.

Judith O'Loughlin opened Caribbean Cove in a small upstairs retail space on Telegraph Avenue in South Berkeley in 2004. After catering and simultaneously running a tiny joint on MacArthur Boulevard in Oakland called Caribbean Kitchen, she decided this was the next step in her food career. She thought moving up to restaurant-friendly Telegraph Avenue would be an improvement from her MacArthur location's countertop and six stools. But, as she now recalls with a nostalgic laugh, "Moving on up was a downfall." Eventually, her catering service was fully supporting her restaurant — and she knew that was not sustainable.

The excitement of her unique style of food lasted for only a bit, she said. "When it's all new, everybody's just excited, they don't mind finding parking, they wanted to try the food," she said. "But eventually, it just became a pain in the neck." In the back of her mind, O'Loughlin said, she always knew the Cove was a gamble. Although she thought she was mentally prepared to get out while the getting was good, she says it turned out to be quite hard to accept the truth. "I knew it was going to happen, so it wasn't as bad. But I was really very depressed when I had to close."

Daniel's Caribbean Kitchen has been a trailer kitchen at the Ashby Flea Market for more than ten years. Like Baten, chef Stephen Daniel is an immigrant from Trinidad. He enjoyed cooking for himself but never dreamed that he would cook for a living. In fact, he went to community college to study welding and "get out of the food business," he said. But welding class was full, and culinary art class was open. After he finished classes there, it was back to the food industry for good.

Daniel kept his trailer kitchen open at the weekly flea market and served at many summertime events, including a Grateful Dead concert and several Juneteenth festivals. And in 2004, he set up his trailer on 7th Street in Berkeley each Wednesday through Friday. Small as it was, it was the closest he got to a true restaurant. But eventually he lost his ability to legally sell on the sidewalk, and was forced to stop.

Now he cooks and sells on weekends at the flea market for the love of it. "It has always been out of my pocket," he adds. Daniel's rule is to always have $500 cash for replenishment so that he can continue to serve his jerk chicken. His wife — who works for United Airlines — also helps keep them going financially, helping him live his discovered dream. "The joy of unfolding beautiful food — I can't give that up. This is no joke business. There can't be any 50 percent desire. You have to be fully committed."

Beverly Correa, the managing director of the Oakland Business Development Corporation Small Business Finance, a nonprofit that loans to small businesses, said she has seen firsthand the path of failure that plagues minority owners disproportionately. "Minority-owned businesses may not always have the capital to have the best location." At best, they open in an unprofitable location. At worst, she said, "they can't open their doors." She added that minority-owned businesses frequently have great startup ideas but little experience and little understanding of the difficulties of financing a business.

One such restaurant was Delaney's Welcome Table on Park Boulevard in the Eastlake district. Delaney's had absolutely sensational soul food, recalled Dalton, a consultant to owner Tami Rabb, a single mother of two children. Dalton tried to help make a viable business out of Rabb's muffins, pork chops, and sauce-smooth red yams. "She was a woman who could cook her ass off but she did not have any business sense," Dalton said. Tami did not have the money or courage to invest in vendor accounts for supply delivery, so instead she got up at 6:00 a.m. twice a week and spent hours buying supplies and carrying a ton of canned goods, meat and vegetables back to her restaurant. The task was draining, and it took some of the life out of her cooking, Dalton said.

After three months, Tami's business dropped 70 percent. According to Dalton, soon after the flow of cash dropped, Tami could no longer pay rent for her home, and she and her two sons moved into the restaurant. She did not drop the restaurant — she dropped her home. She was not going to let her dream go. Ultimately, she had no choice and closed her doors.

The failure of these restaurants so often directly impacts the lives of their owners. According to real estate agent Gary Bettencourt from LCB Associates,

Continued on page 14

Careers & Education

CALL TO ADVERTISE 510-879-3700

Movie Extras Needed.
Earn $150 to $300 Per Day. All Looks, Types and Ages. Feature Films, Television Commercials and Print. No Experience Necessary. 1-800-340-8404 x2001 (AAN CAN)

Part Time Work..
Hi, we are looking for a person who can work with our company. Work online from home and get paid weekly! K&K beer Company needs a book keeper in the United States for more information regarding the work and weekly pay email me at **andrewmike@live.co.uk Regards**

$600 Weekly Potential$$$
Helping the Government PT. No Experience No Selling. Call 1-888-213-5225 Ad Code L-5 Void in Maryland & South Dakota (AAN CAN)

Earn $75 - $200 Hour
Media Makeup Artist Training. Ads. TV. Film. Fashion. One week class. Stable job in weak economy. Details at www.AwardMakeUpSchool.com 310-364-0665 (AAN CAN)

Drivers- Owner Operators-
2 or 3 Axle- Home Daily! Paid Weekly! LTL Freight Exp. CDL A w/H&T End. Clean DMV
800-242-9119

Musicians: Want To Make Some Extra Money?
Got a big van that's not seeing action on Wednesdays? The *East Bay Express* is looking for people who already appreciate our paper to help us deliver it each week. Drivers must be available Wednesday mornings and afternoons, must own their own van or pickup truck, must possess valid insurance and a clean driving record, must be reliable and on time, must speak good English, and must be familiar enough with the *Express* to help us find appropriate new delivery locations.
If you are interested, please call Stephon Buel at 510-879-3708. We need a few drivers immediately, so call at once.

Learn to Bartend
Thousands trained and placed.
$199 Tuition Ends Soon!
Nation's Largest 888-901-TIPS(8477)
www.abcbartending.com

High School Diploma!
Fast, Affordable & Accredited. Free Brochure. Call Now! 1-800-532-6546 Ext. 97 www.continentalacademy.com (AAN CAN)

Q/A Manager
F/T MS Food Science, 0-1year exp.
Evaluate & develop Q/A programs & strategy.
Resume to: Ten Ren Tea, 417 Eccles Ave. S. San Francisco, CA 94080

Models Earn Cash Today
Pretty girl Model (18+) needed for erotic art photography in a warm, accepting environment. Beginners ok. Call Allison or Tom 510-228-3352

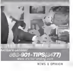
Nurse Practitioner
Provide primary care/medical evaluations, urgent care for acute conditions, follow-up care for chronic conditions, advise on disease prevention. Send Resume-
Attn. HR, Center for Elders Independence, 510 17th Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

Virtual Office Assistant
Part Time Virtual Office Assistant and payroll position available. No serious training require but you must have basic computer know how. The ideal candidate would be team oriented, and capable of multi tasking in using computer to records. Excellent customer service are a must. The position offers a great work environment with part time potential. Please send resumes to markstores@live.com or Fax. 215-701-7509

Support Low Income Women with Cancer
Volunteer Women Acupuncturists Bodyworkers, Drivers, Support Staff, Spanish & Chinese Language Interpreters needed. Women of Color Especially Welcome.
510-601-7660 ext. 21

Oakland Food Connection
Seeking Volunteers: Gardening, Nutrition, Education, Catering. Check our website for membership information! foodcommunityculture.org

Summer Jobs!
To Repeal Prop 8 Earn $1340 to $2140 month. Work for Grassroots Campaigns, Inc. on behalf of Equality California to restore equal rights in California. F/T and Career. Call Cameron.
East Bay: 510-848-1754
SF: 415-447-9306
Santa Cruz: 831-423-9599



Train to be a Crisis Intervention Counselor

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County needs volunteers to answer our 24 hour crisis lines.

Previous experience is not necessary - we offer comprehensive training and ongoing support.

Call today!
510-420-2471

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County

BEAUTIFUL MUTANTS
THE VISUAL ART OF MARK MOTHERSBAUGH
AUGUST 1ST-SEPTEMBER 29TH OPENING SAT, AUG 1ST 6-11PM
"Beautiful Mutants" by Mark Mothersbaugh
Photomontage/artwork of Mark Mothersbaugh
Legendary DEVO frontman and visual artist Mark Mothersbaugh will be showcasing his latest works of art
SR2 Gallery
1728 University Ave
Berkeley, CA 94703
(510) 883-1083
www.sr2gallery.com
www.sr2visual.com
www.sacredrosetattoo.com

JOHN BALDESSARI
A PRINT RETROSPECTIVE
from the Collections of
Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation

This exhibition presents over 100 prints spanning four decades of John Baldessari's career from the 1970s when he abandoned painting to work exclusively with photography and text to make his art more accessible. He is known for his use of photographic images and text to which he adds colorful cutout shapes to create unique collage-based arrangements.

7.11.09—11.8.09

John Baldessari: A Print Retrospective from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation has been organized by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation.

Image: John Baldessari, *Studio*, 1988. Photo offset lithograph with color screenprint. Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer

34th Ave. & Clement St. San Francisco
Tue–Sun 9:30am–5:15pm
legionofhonor.org 415.750.3600

Legion of Honor

What Is Killing the East Bay's Soul Food Restaurants?

Continued from page 13

who represents the property that once housed the Cajun restaurant T.J.'s Gingerbread House in Oakland, chef T.J. Robinson and her family faced foreclosure, and closed in 2008. The facade remains fully decorated and landmarked by the city, but the inside is completely trashed, he said. Robinson's 35-year-old fairy tale, which as a life-sized gingerbread house was a childhood dream come true, just became another minority-owned mom-and-pop fatality.

Hidden inside downtown Oakland's Latham Square Building — literally behind a small glass double door behind the doorman's desk — Lady's Place was an accessible lunch break for many of the building's occupants. In fact, Decuir was lured to Suite 105 because of her perception of all the hungry workers inside.

At the start of her business, that was indeed the case. Many workers loved her seafood gumbo, New Orleans-style muffoleta sandwiches, and Creole shrimp with spicy jambalaya galore. But building tenants only made up about 30 percent of her client base, so Decuir also hit the streets in a modest effort to attract outsiders. "We got out on foot, handing out flyers and menus," she said. She also placed as many fliers as the building would permit on the front door, visible to 16th Street passersby.

The initial success of her restaurant — which had two floors, a jazz-and-blues ambiance, several televisions, and even the occasional nightclub transformation — was overwhelmingly exciting to her. "It was a dream come true," Decuir said. "It was such a great feeling, I can't even describe it. I had accomplished my goal."

But the dream was slowly ripped apart as the recession made consumers afraid to spill the contents of their wallet. The pain first began when two large tenants left the building, which already had a low vacancy rate of just 6.5 percent when Lady's Place first opened, according to real estate agent Nick Pokley. Then, in early 2007, the nonprofit fair trade coffee organization TransFair USA left the Latham, taking with it around forty workers. The following August, the California Transplant Donor Network took another forty workers.

Decuir felt their absence. "We were a restaurant inside an office building," she said. "So many moved out and it directly hurt us," she said. And by early 2008 and the formal beginning of the recession, she recalled, many loyal lunch customers began bringing their own food to work and forking over their cash to Decuir a lot less often.

Bill Johnson, the doorman and security guard who began working at Latham just after the restaurant opened, loved her food but sometimes had trouble paying. "She was cooking my kind of food, my soul food," he recalled. Johnson said he would sometimes eat lunch and ask Decuir to let him pay a few days later when he had the cash. She did not mind.

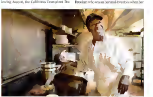
Decuir also discovered that she had to accept the limited range of her client base. She marketed as best as she could, but she grew to realize that her food was not appealing to everyone, and there was little she could do about it. "We just don't get the same support from non-African Americans," she said. "It is sad, but it is the truth."

And the restaurant's poor visibility from outside the building made it difficult for the neighborhood population to enjoy her food. "Who is going to walk through here?" Johnson asked. "And if they come inside, the first thing they're going to see is me." The soul food smell permeating into the lobby, he said, was in fact the best and only real advertising for Decuir, and from where he sat, the perfume was quite difficult to ignore. But despite the enticing whiffs, the money was not coming in.

Decuir watched her $15,000 investment slowly disappear. "It is hard to break even," she said. "Often you are losing money — especially in the first couple years. ... We were losing quite a bit."

At about the same time, the losses at Penny's Caribbean Cuisine were deepening the hole in Baten's pocket, and she was exhausted. "I had a lot of family and friend support, but this was really a one-person operation." And in spite of the free labor supplied by her children, her expenses still exceeded her revenues. So she applied for funding from the Minority Business Development Agency, but was denied. She never learned why.

"It was hard," said Baten's daughter Alicia Brooker, who was in her mid-twenties when her


Leon Witherspoon survived the recent layoffs at Billie's Soul Food. Stephen Loewinsohn

Stephen Daniel is back to selling food on weekends at the Ashby Flea Market. Stephen Loewinsohn

mother took on the virtually sole operation. "It was very difficult to see her try to wear so many different hats." Brooker helped out as much as possible, but she couldn't work as much as her mother needed. "She's going to tell you that she could do anything," Brooker said. Although she was proud of her mother, it was painful to see the location and recession hit the restaurant and all of her mother's work so hard.

Baten proceeded to take a loan on her home. She then dipped into her retirement fund. Her partner, Pirello, tried to help in every way that he could. "Sometimes Kurt would pay my bill because I just didn't make enough money that week," she recalled. Eventually she filed for bankruptcy, and from there the climb was so steep it was hard not to fall backward completely.

But even amid the economic struggle, Baten remained focused on the highest quality food — much of which she imported directly from the Caribbean. Ginger beer, masala curry, Caribbean fries, spices and seasoning — she ordered them from abroad or had visiting family and friends from Trinidad bring some with them on the plane. The practice was expensive, but quality wasn't something she was willing to sacrifice.

The growing violence of her neighborhood didn't help either. During her time on Sacramento Street, she witnessed at least two violent situations that merited police involvement. Her business closed at 11 p.m., and she would have to stay afterward to finish cleanup. The occasional dangers of her block sometimes made her feel unsafe and most certainly deterred potential customers. "It was really the area, people just didn't feel safe," Pirello said. "Reviews would say, 'It was fantastic, just don't come alone.'" But even with press support, too many seats were empty.

Andrew Clewis, a local resident who lives nearby on Stuart Street, said the reviews warning of unsafe streets were absolutely merited. But as a longtime resident of the area, he happily ate at Baten's numerous times. "It was kind of a staple of the community," he said. "If she had been on Martin Luther King, she would have blown up."

Once Baten's mother got sick, the restaurant operation lost momentum. She was completely drained financially, and her mother, who was living on the East Coast at the time, needed her support. So in January 2008, Baten shut her doors and gave up on her five-star dreams. She rushed to the East Coast to be with her mother and together with her son returned to Trinidad, where she lives today. She even left behind all of her equipment — a sign, she said, of her lingering desire to someday return. Pots, pans, and a freezer are still visible through the graffiti-covered window with fading letters advertising her curry goat and jerk chicken lunches.

"The thing is, I had to go," she said. "Oh, I have really good memories. And I spent more years in America than in Trinidad." She still hopes someday to return to California, where her kids grew up. But going back to the islands was, as she put it, "just another adventure."

Yet for many in the neighborhood, her departure was sudden and disappointing. "We were surprised; it was kind of like she just got up and left with no notice," Clewis said. Citing the nickname that many returning customers had given to Baten, he added, "We miss Mama Ruti."

Even at age sixteen, Roslynn Lady Decuir was good at managing a restaurant. In fact, she found most of the job rather easy. "It was routine," she recalled. "Managing the restaurant was really just managing different personalities — different people. The rest is easy." But nearly two decades after Decuir first prayed for a restaurant, she was forced to pray again. Money was very tight, and she knew in her heart that Lady's Place was not going to last. "It was a hard business decision," she remembered. Either the catering or the restaurant had to go. "The question was, which one? And it had to be the one that was financially and physically draining me, and that was the restaurant."

So in April 2008, Decuir once again asked God for support. "I prayed again," she said. "I went to God and asked for confirmation to close my restaurant." The wishes of her sixteen-year-old self had come true, and she needed God to confirm that the glory was over and it was okay to stop. "I don't care if it was one year or ten years." She had done what she always wanted to do. "I said, 'Dear Lord, I need permission to put this dream to sleep.'" And like so many others, she did. ●

Sam.Levin@EastBayExpress.com

BUY • SELL • TRADE • CONSIGN
The Starving Musician
Specializing in Used AND New Musical Equipment
2474 Shattuck · Berkeley · 510.841.2648
SANTA CLARA · SANTA CRUZ
www.starvingmusician.com

Exclusive Frame Show Event!
View the entire collection of eyewear from on Saturday July 18th 9am - 5pm
Join us for fun, food and drinks!
40% discount on prescription lenses with the purchase of frames
Albany Berkeley Optometry
1313 Solano Avenue Albany CA 94706
510 526 9194

The Express has moved
to 620 3rd St., Oakland, 94607

Acupuncture is health care at its finest
First learn why Chinese medicine is so effective.
Then learn how to become a licensed acupuncturist!
OPEN HOUSE DATES: June 27, 2009, August 8, 2009
1601 Clay St.
Oakland, Ca. 94612
510.763.7787
Clinic: 510.763.1288
www.acchs.edu
info@acchs.edu
- Accredited MS degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine / Massage Therapy Program Cert
- Outstanding, experienced faculty from China, Taiwan, and the United States
- Emphasis on the classical roots and modern applications of Traditional Chinese Medicine
- Full/part-time classes
- English and Chinese tracks
- Financial assistance available
Take a tour and/or sit in on a class!

BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL
Local Food View:
Can We?
Peaches, plums, and apricots, oh my! If you've visited one of the Bay Area's many farmers markets lately, you might have noticed some extra color. Summer is upon us, and the market tables are overflowing with stone fruit, berries, and more. Once you've eaten all the fresh cherries your belly can hold, this is the best time to plan ahead for winter.
Canning and preserving food is a fun, economical way to hold on to those great summer flavors! Canning can be a little intimidating at first, but fear not. People have been canning, jamming, and fermenting for centuries, and with a little care and attention you can easily put away safe and delicious foods for year-round enjoyment. So visit a Brentwood u-pick or take home an extra flat of strawberries from the market this week! Yes, you can.

Photo by Olivia Sargeant
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE WITH FAMILY FARMERS • WWW.CAFF.ORG

ARTS & CULTURE

CULTURE SPY

HELLO, BAD STUFF

How Hi-Fructose magazine stayed sweet in a bad economy

By Rachel Swan

It's a weird time to be publishing an art magazine, and not only because so many of the old print powerhouses are halting production. Art culture and its critics represent this weird, rarefied niche, said Richmond-based publisher Attaboy (aka Daniel Seifert), whose own quarterly *Hi-Fructose* just marked its twelfth issue. "There's a whole slew of people who don't feel like they can like art anymore — that they're not allowed to, or that they're not smart enough, or that they're being conned." In fact, he added, a lot of them aren't aware that working artists still exist. "If you ask somebody on the street, they can't name a living artist," said Attaboy. "Not since Warhol died. For good or bad, they used to say, 'Picasso, Dali, Warhol.'" Shepard Fairey is the only current artist who's managed to insert himself in popular consciousness, he said — "because of the Obama stuff."

But it's mostly the lesser-known, under-the-radar artists that pique Attaboy's interest and fill the pages of *Hi-Fructose*: Camille Rose Garcia with her gothic cartoons; Australian illustrator Ashley Wood, whose portfolio includes a fourteen-inch "popebot" with military paraphernalia; Emeryville artist Josh Keyes, whose floating deer adorns the cover of Issue #12; French comic book artist Matthieu Bessudo, who seems fixated on guitars, studio gear, and sausages. Attaboy did in fact run one article on Shepard Fairey, with a kind of gonzo journalism slant. Rather than prattle about the Obama "Hope" graphic, the writer tagged along while Fairey wheat-pasted his posters in San Francisco. Attaboy thought it gave an improbable, sexy angle on a well known artist, and therefore fit in with his magazine's counter-cultural slant. He said he wouldn't object to covering artists like Japanese *Louis Vuitton* bag designer Takashi Murakami, whose hipster cachet can't override his prodigious imagination. But mostly, Attaboy and co-publisher Annie Owens stick with the magazine's motto: "Under the Counter Culture."

The couple shares a small house in Richmond, where they sat shuffling magazines on a recent Thursday. They moved in just a couple months ago but the place already bears their artistic stamp. The taxidermied head of a Dr. Seuss character (namely, the Mulberry Street Unicorn) adorns a wall above the fireplace, while below it on the mantle sits a blue rubber bust of John F. Kennedy and some gothic dolls designed by Garcia. In a fun corner of the living room lies Owens' collection of old film cameras.

They came up with the idea for *Hi-Fructose* in 2005, mostly out of frustration with other art magazines. "I used to go to the magazine stand and Annie and I would get all mad and leave," Attaboy explained. "I always felt dumb and not cool enough — not young enough. I didn't have enough money. It's always I didn't have something."

"Not brain enough," Owens chimed in. "Not street enough."

The very notion of Attaboy being "not cool enough" for an art magazine is enough to produce cognitive dissonance. He looks like a grizzled ex-graffiti artist with a penchant for pin-striped caps and skater clothes. In previous lives he licensed toy ideas to Hasbro, self-published an anthology of "unlikely" comics called *I Hate Cartoons*, and illustrated Katie St. Clair's music column in the *East Bay Express*. His current medium is spray paint on plastic. He's amassed enough outsider art knowledge to out-hip just about anybody.

But apparently he and Owens felt marginalized by the art magazine world. The fine arts magazines were too over-theorized and curatorial; the hipster magazines were too self-consciously ironic and scenester. They wanted to create something antidote to these norms — a magazine that provided intelligent commentary on left-field art, making it accessible to laymen but tasteful enough for blue-chip collectors. Furthermore, they wanted a magazine snazzy enough to be its own self-contained

It's so sweet it's bad for you, but it's good! Right?

work of art. "You know how you'd never throw away a *National Geographic*, even if you're not into nature stuff?" asked Attaboy. He cited *National Geographic* as his primary model.

They started out with a mom-and-pop setup, producing *Hi-Fructose* in the living room (which, at that time, was in nearby Albany). They filled each issue with artist interviews, essays, reviews of toys, books, paintings, sculptures, and bottles of syrup (or whatever else seemed germane) and gallery write-ups — some by people who were heavily steeped in the scene, and others by people who weren't that deep in the art world but could write about it from an interesting perspective. The editors provided several images of everything they covered, and made the ads align with the illustrations. Thus, the whole magazine has a kind of aesthetic jamminess that makes it more like a picture book than a periodical. They even chose a paper stock that's coated with some type of varnish to create more tactility.

Owens says the key to survival is a lot of careful decision making and attention to detail. In the early days of *Hi-Fructose* she worked a day job managing budgets and wrote a lot of the magazine's art essays in her spare time. She would come home to a living room furnished with boxes, and hand mail subscriptions with Attaboy. They would argue fiercely about content for the magazine — a pick-and-choose process that often led to cross-examinations at the dinner table. ("It's like a really long tennis match," said Owens.) They would draw on the first 200 subscriber envelopes while watching movies. It wasn't until Issue 9 that they changed methodologies and hired a warehouse to ship everything. Now, with 2,200 subscribers and retailers throughout the globe, the old way of doing things seems impossible.

The editors are as surprised as anybody that they've made it this far. They've amassed a huge stable of writers, and enough capital to pay them. They no longer have day jobs — Attaboy finally relaunched his own art career with a couple gallery showings in Los Angeles. Last year they compiled the first four issues of *Hi-Fructose* into a bound volume published by San Francisco company Last Gasp. They have a web site laced with exclusive interviews, videos, and a blog that doesn't seem exceptionally bloggy, in that it's not updated at the reactive three-posts-a-day rate. ("We're not trying to keep up with the art blog race," Attaboy explained.) There's no telling how *Hi-Fructose* will fare in a wobbly economy, but so far they've succeeded by taking the opposite tack of most magazines, said Owens — slow, careful decision making, rather than cutting corners. They don't run advertorials, they don't repurpose magazine content for the web or vice-versa, and most importantly, they don't print more than they intend to sell.

"The magazine industry is based on waste," said Attaboy, explaining that most magazines print as many copies as they can to justify their high advertising costs, even if half of that physical product winds up in the trash. That system fails in a bad economy, since the advertisers don't bite and they're not making money on the sell-through either. *Hi-Fructose* is based on a much more efficient model that privileges subscription sales over ad revenue. "We just stumbled upon it," Attaboy said.

Yet he also attributes the magazine's appeal to its title. "There's the counter culture, and then there's under-the-counter culture," Attaboy said. "The name *Hi-Fructose* is like 'Hello, Bad stuff.' It's so sweet, but it's bad for you, but it's good. It's like a reverse Xerox — high fructose is something you see everywhere. Maybe when people see it, they'll think of us." ●

Hi-Fructose resides at HiFructose.com

Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

We sell great coffee beans too.

2008 East Bay Express
"Best Cafe/Coffeehouse" &
"Best New Business"

2009 Oakland Indie Awards
"Greenie Award"

AWAKEN CAFÉ 414 14th Street at Broadway • in the new Downtown Oakland • www.awakencafe.com

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

The Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo in Phoenix. Ray Rubney

The Next Wave of Dusty Demons

Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo brings black cowboy culture to the East Bay

For most of us, cowboy culture is synonymous with Buffalo Bill Cody, the Lone Ranger, or Roy Rogers riding his noble steed across an open prairie. But the real thing was a lot less whitewashed, said Jeff DouVal, Oakland coordinator of the **Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo**. In his 25 years of working with the only national touring black rodeo, DouVal has amassed quite a bit of historical knowledge about African Americans on the Western frontier. Pickett, who in 1971 became the first black cowboy to be inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, was famous for a form of "bulldogging" (i.e., steer wrestling) that required him to come out of his saddle and bite the steer's lip in order to paralyze it. "Back in them days you had brush in open fields, and you couldn't really rope a steer," DouVal explained. Pickett's antics earned him a place in Buffalo Bill's Wild West shows, where he was known, appropriately, as the Dusty Demon.

And Pickett was in good company, said DouVal. A lot of the old trail drivers were black, as were many Pony Express riders who made speedy deliveries from Oakland to Sacramento. In fact, DouVal can name more than half a dozen legendary African American frontiersmen (and women) right off the top of his head: Nat Love (aka "Deadwood Dick"), Bridget "Biddy" Mason, Clara Brown, Bass Reeves, Jim Beckwourth, Isaiah Dorman, and Stagecoach Mary, who stood over six feet tall and was one of the greatest mule skinners that ever lived, he said. When Berkeley-born rodeo enthusiast Lu Vason attended Wyoming's Cheyenne Frontier Days in 1977 and found no trace of this African American history — nor a single black cowboy, according to DouVal — he decided to launch a cattle-herding event of his own. Thus, the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo was born. Explained DouVal: "This rodeo was not created to be ethnic in nature. It's just that this history is not in the history books."

Now a huge tradition, the Bill Pickett rodeo features seven events: bulldogging, steer undecorating (i.e., grabbing a ribbon off the steer's backside), bareback riding, tie-down roping, barrel racing (i.e., riding a fast cloverleaf without knocking over any barrels), and bull riding. Such tricks sure aren't easy, said DouVal. He knows from experience: DouVal's own son rode his first exhibition bull at age thirteen, got thrown off, and scrambled out of the arena with a mouthful of dirt and blood, ready for more. But given the amount of cowboys who come back year after year, paying their own entry fees, riding with dislocated shoulders, and perhaps not even winning, but loving every minute of it, it's clear that black rodeo culture is here to stay. The Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo hits **Rowell Ranch Arena** (9711 Dublin Canyon Rd., Hayward) on Saturday & Sunday, July 11 & 12, 2:30 p.m., $15-$22. BillPickettRodeo.com

— *Rachel Swan*

ATTRACTIONS

Alameda County Fair With horse racing, carnivals, carnival rides, pig races, a festival square, pedal tractors for kids, petting zoos, livestock exhibitions, and live entertainment. For info, visit AlamedaCountyFair.com. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fridays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Continues through July 12. $4-$10 (season pass). Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton, 925-426-7600, AlamedaCountyFair.com.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS & FUND-RAISERS

Big Art Studios Presents: Sand By The Sea With 3 live music stages, 4 "Sandbox" music stages, full sandcastle contests with kites, 200 tons of sand with 5 swimming pools (swimwear encouraged), BBQ. Sat., July 18, 4 p.m. $20-$30; $125 VIP. Alameda Steel, 1800 Mandela Pkwy., Oakland.

Chinatown Night Market Chef demonstrations, live music, and business vendors. Saturdays, 4-8 p.m. Continues through July 25. free. Oakland Chinatown, (11th St. to Webster St.), Oakland.

The Foot Bag Style Collective Mid-Summer Evening Fashion Show, Pop-Up Store and Food & Wine Tasting Wine and food tasting provided by local restaurants and wineries, 6-8 p.m., followed by an outdoor fashion show. Plus a one-night-only pop-up shop located at 1481 Shattuck Avenue created by local designers and merchants. Raffle to support the Firstman Project. Sat., July 11, 6-10 p.m. Gourmet Ghetto, Shattuck Ave. (between Rose and Vine Sts.), Berkeley. www.popupstore.org/

2009 Eastside Fine Arts Festival With outdoor live sculptures, open-air promenade, interactive installations, food vendors, live music, and dance performances. For info, visit theCrucible.org. July 18-19. $10-$16. Fire Arts Center, Wake Ave. & Engineer Rd. (in the Oakland Army Base), Oakland.

The San Francisco Silent Film Festival Silent films from many parts of the world, with live musical accompaniment. July 10-12. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro Street (Castro St. and Market Street), San Francisco. 415-777-4908.

Scottish Highland Games Traditional highland games plus craft booths, vendors, food, whisky tasting, Mancoon tours, a gathering of the clans, children's activities, dancing demonstrations, pipe band competitions and musical performances. Sat., July 11, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., July 12, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $8-$20. Dunsmuir Historic Estate, 2960 Peralta Oaks Ct., Oakland, 925-275-0400, Alameda.org.

KIDS

Oldtown Weekend With parades, carnivals, magic, stilt shows, pony parades, amusement devices, pinball arcades, haunted carousel and vintage art. Sun., July 12, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $15-$15. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Playland-Not-at-the-Beach.org.

Enter My World A creativity workshop for kids grades 2-12. Please preregister. Ongoing, start anytime. Fridays, 4:15-6 p.m. $15/session or $50/four sessions. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St., Alameda, 510-523-6957, FrankBetteCenter.org.

Cowboy Jared Singing, movement, and instruments for young children. Fridays, 10:30 a.m., free. Crossroads Community Center & Coffeehouse, 1308 High St., Alameda, 510-864-8000, CrosswalkCoffee.org.

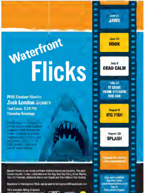
Dog Day Thursday Kids in grades 1-5 read to specially-trained Reading Education Assistance Dogs. Thursdays, 3 p.m. Continues through Sept. 3. free. Albany Library, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany, 510-526-3720, ACLibrary.org.

Early Childhood Safety: Water Safety Skills Tips for child safety around swimming pools, baby pools, water buckets, and bathtubs. Fri., July 10, 10:30 a.m. noon, free. Habitot Children's Museum, 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley, 510-647-1111, Habitot.org.

"Let It Be Heard: Music/Spoken Word Contest for Girls" Online Entries. promoted by The Collective Sound Music

ZEN SUPPLIES · BEDDING · WINDOW-SEAT
IMPORTED GIFTS
TABI · NATURAL FOODS
San Pablo Ave, Albany
Solano Ave, Berkeley
Moraga Rd, Lafayette
4th St, San Rafael
Matsu
Solid oak, cherry, maple, and walnut frames.
Natural cotton and wool.
Custom-made bedding and furniture.
Things Japanese
Zen Supplies
www.matsu-store.com
LOCAL MADE FRAMES · FUTONS · COVERS

SAN FRANCISCO HERB + NATURAL FOOD CO.
4744 Katz Rd Fremont, Ca. 94538 • 800-227-2830 • 510-770-1215 • Since 1915
OREGON TILTH
CERTIFIED ORGANIC
Grower Importer Wholesaler & Manufacturer
Loose Herbs & Tea Bags
Bulk Botanicals, Bulk Teas
Culinary Spice Blends
Capsules, Oils, Extracts and Tinctures
CALL FOR A FREE CATALOG!
www.herbspicetea.com


Waterfront Flicks
June 11 JAWS
June 25 HOOK
July 9 DEAD CALM
July 23 IT CAME FROM BENEATH THE SEA
August 6 BIG FISH
August 20 SPLASH
FREE Outdoor Movies
Jack London Square
Sunset 7:30 PM
Thursday Evenings
Special Thanks to our movie partners: Oakland Barracuda Aquatics, The Jack London Aquatic Center, Celebrations on the Bay, East Bay Ferry, Alameda Marina, The USS Potomac, California Canoe and Kayak and The Oakland Film Society.
For a complete listing of special events: www.jacklondonsquare.com or call 510-645-9292

ESTUARY ART ATTACK

Second Fridays

July 10th from 6pm - 9pm
Visit Alameda and Jingletown Galleries

Participating Galleries

4:20 Gallery
420 Petersen St.

Insititute of Mosaic Art
3001 Chapman St.

Ford Street Studios &
Fernando Reyes #26
Hue Yang #6
Jason Dunn #6
2934 Ford St.

Float Art Gallery
1091 Calcot Place #116

Ave.Inferno Gallery
4401 San Leandro St.

Frank Bette Center for the Arts
1601 Paru St.

Bridgehead Studio
2516 Blanding Ave

K Gallery at Rythmix Cultural Works
2513 Blanding Ave.

Autobody Fine Art
1517 Park St.

Bridgland Studios Gallery
2254½ Santa Clara Ave.

Forrealism Studios
2527 Clement Ave.

Guerrero Glass Studio
2527 Clement Ave.

Lucky Juju Pinball Museum
713 Santa Clara

Our Sponsors

Speisekammer
New Zealander
Alameda Wine Co.
Acquacotta Rest.
Aroma Restaurant
Lucky 13
McGee's Bar & Grill
Dragon Rouge
Asena Restaurant

Zen Restaurant
Pappo Restaurant
C'era Una Volta
Julie's Coffee & Tea
Tucker's Ice Cream
Forbidden Island
Ching Hua Rest.
Mason Management
Encinal Market
Culina

For map of event locations and more info
go to: www.estuaryartattack.com

PICKS

Fair Horse Racing

Everything [illegible] at the fair. That includes betting, when one can enjoy **horse racing** at the **Alameda County Fair** (4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton) for the next two weeks. The Pleasanton event hosts the regular (and slightly irregular) thoroughbreds every day but Monday and Tuesday through July 19. The crowds tend to be more spirited and silly than those who go hard-core at Golden Gate Fields: wandering families with corn dogs and stuffed bears standing in line next to touts with marked-up racing forms. The fairs often throw in exotic races as well: quarter horses, Arabians, Appaloosas, and the occasional mule sprint. Can't pick a winner? Try asking the guy with a glow-stick headband and fried Twinkie. It's a long shot, sure, but that's what the fair's all about anyway. 12:45 p.m. $6-$10. *AlamedaCountyFair.com* — *Kibby Kleiman*

Kids Go Green

Humans, red-faced with our efforts to cut emissions, compost our waste, and use graywater systems, [illegible] finally looking at a leaner, less profligate, less carbon-emitting future. But if the plan is really to curb ozone-layer depletion and conserve energy resources, then it behooves us to get younger generations in on the deal. The **Chabot Space & Science Center** (10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland) offered to help with its series of Kids Go Green events, which teach children about solar-powered motor vehicles, windmills, energy-efficient homes, fuel cells, and hydropower. The next installment, called **Kids Go Green: Energy, Weather, Climate & Climate Change** happens Saturday, July 11, 11 a.m. Free with museum admission ($10.95-$14.95). ChabotSpace.org — *Rachel Swan*

Midsummer Fashion Show

Founded four years ago by a group of boutique owners in Berkeley, the **East Bay Style Collective** is by far one of the most fruitful business collaborations in town. The participating stores — among them Feather Vintage, Magnet, and Herringbone Apothecary — are intent on bringing a haute couture sensibility to the famously uncouth denizens of the East Bay. The collective holds as gospel the idea that high heels and accessories can transform any pair of jeans, that designer T-shirts can retail for $40, and that a thrift store dress need not look like a sack. This Saturday, July 11, East Bay Style Collective presents its **Mid-Summer Evening Fashion Show, Pop-Up Store and Food & Wine Tasting** in North Berkeley's **Gourmet Ghetto** (Shattuck Ave. at Vine St.), put together by local merchants, designers, and vintners. A terrific selection of frocks, cosmetics, jewelry, food, and intoxicants will be available for sale, and they'll hold a raffle to support the Princess Project. 6-10 p.m., $4 per taste or $10 per chair at the show. EastBayStyleCollective.com — *R.S.*

Robots & Machinations BBQ and Tour

For many of us, bicycles signify physical well-being, a healthful environment, or perhaps an alternative form of civil society. But few people get as deep into bike symbolism as sculpture artist Kurt Weld, whose new exhibit, ***Machinations*** (through July 18 at Richmond Art Center), uses pedal-powered vehicles to generate discussions of gender politics, velocity, modernity, childhood, geometry, and life's wobbliness, among other things. Weld's bike installation appears in conjunction with Clayton and Betty Bailey's ***Robots and Watercolors***, which includes more than one hundred anthropomorphic sculptures made from household appliances and scavenged materials. Check them out on Saturday, July 11, at a **BBQ picnic and guided tour** at the **Richmond Art Center** (2540 Barrett Ave.). 2-5 p.m., $5. www.TheRichmondArtCenter.org — *R.S.*

A man and his bike.

[illegible] LLC

Scottish Highland Games

It's not every day that you get to see muscle-bound men in skirts throwing 16- to 25-pound river stones, others the size of telephone poles, huge hammer shot puts, and other big, blocky things — while screaming. But such extreme sports compose only part of the **35th Annual Scottish Highland Games**, held this weekend (Saturday & Sunday, July 11 & 12) at the **Dunsmuir Historic Estate** (2960 Peralta Oaks Ct., Oakland). Other attractions include sheep dog demos, pipe band competitions, a children's glen, gatherings of clans, Highland country dancing, and culinary delights (we're expecting haggis, sausages, and perhaps some delicious Scotch pies). 10 a.m.-5 p.m., $8-$12. Dunsmuir.org — *R.S.*

Academy (operating out of its permanent College this summer). In conjunction with Positive Teen, it encourages young female musicians (age 12-18) to showcase their original music and poetry. ElementEden.com. Through July 31. Expression Center for New Media, 6601 Shellmound St., Emeryville. [illegible]

Oakland Mic Youth Speaks presents a monthly under-21 open mic hosted by Mellani Clay and Katy Tomlin and featuring dancing to DJ Dion Doolittle. Second Friday of every month, 7 p.m. Free. 415-255-9035. YouthSpeaks.org. Express Art Gallery, 198 Kahn's Alley (at 21st and Telegraph Plaza between Clay and Broadway sts.), Oakland. 510-817-8385. OaklandArtGallery.org.

LGBT

Express 20s Discussion group for gay, bi, or questioning men in their 20s in the East Bay. Thursdays, 8-10 p.m. $5-$20 suggested donation. (510) 548-8283. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283, PacificCenter.org.

HIV Positive Therapy Group Advance sign-up required. Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., $50-$45 sliding scale. 510-548-8283 ext. 243. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8888. PacificCenter.org.

[illegible] of Color peer group Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. $5-$20 suggested donation. (510) 548-8043. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283 PacificCenter.org.

LOUD Youth Group Drop-in group for LGBT youth. Tuesdays: arts/crafts/writing/music. Wednesdays: youth leadership. Thursdays: hot topics/guest speakers. Fridays: queer movies/video games. Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m., Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m., Thursdays, 4-6 p.m., Fridays, 4-8 p.m. Free. (510) 548-8283. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283. PacificCenter.org.

Wicked Gorgeous Drag Show Hotlaka Tymes, Cassandra Cass, Rusty Hips, and Dee Dee. Fridays, 9 p.m. Continues through Sept. 4. $5. White Horse Inn, 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-652-3820. WhiteHorseBar.com

More Listings Online
Find hundreds of up-to-date Arts listings at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

Free Oakland Program: Actividades de Verano Activities include gardening, arts, holding movies, history, cooking, Twitter exchange and nature. Hablamos español. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 2-5 p.m. Continues through Aug. 20. Free. Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, 2465 34th Ave., Oakland. 510-532-9142. PeraltaHacienda.org.

Great Western Power Company Kid's Climb Summer Camp Indoor rock climbing classes for kids ages 6-14. Advanced registration required. Through Aug. 14. 9 a.m.-noon. $200-250 per session. Great Western Power Company, 520 20th St., Oakland. 510-452-2022.

Jam-N-Bowl Mondays, 10 p.m., $1.50 per game. Albany Bowl, 540 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-526-8818, AlbanyBowl.biz.

SPORTS SPECTATOR

Duel on the Docks, Roller Derby All-women flat-track roller derby bout featuring the San Francisco ShEvil Dead and the Richmond Wrecking Belles. Sat., July 11, 7 p.m. $15-$17. Fort Mason, Marina Blvd. and Buchanan St., San Francisco. 415-345-7575. FortMason.org.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Kelsey Nicholson's Mallard

Decoys

Two artists come to terms with unreality

Tut's return to San Francisco raises old issues about the art object's multiple identities as locus of magic or magical power, as embodiment of social belief, and, ultimately, as historical artifact. Our secular, scientific, materialist culture eschews the notions of ultimate truth, scientific or artistic, so it's interesting to speculate on how future societies will view us, based on what future archaeologists unearth from our buried treasure troves. Will future art historians be able to reanimate Jasper Johns' *Decoy*? The au courant issues of representation and meaning, explored by conceptual artists **Kelsey Nicholson** and **Ken Fandell**, viewed in a wider perspective, however, fit right into the continuum of art. We walk like Egyptians.

Nicholson is known for her installations treating natural themes with synthetic, artificial materials — woodsy environments of wood-grained laminate populated by cardboard model-kit style birds. They're both a parody of the commercial/utopian fakery Americans love (e.g., Disneyland, Las Vegas, planned communities), and a humorous mash note to creativity and confusion. Nicholson, who forages for materials at Home Depot, says, "Green carpet is exactly the same as grass for me; wood paneling is exactly the same as a tree." Here she's exhibiting **Camouflage Birds**, life-size wooden models of mallard and hawk, and heron that have been collaged with rectangles of printed paper at various levels of resolution — digital plumage or pixelated bad hi-def mummy wrappings. The birds rest atop wooden shelves surrounded by trees and terrain made of wooden shingles or fieldstones, actually shims that rhyme visually with the faux feathers. Nicholson also is showing photos mounted on plywood from her *Flat Land* series, small epiphanies extracted from the phenomenal world. Fandell, too, is showing photographs, but with a more conceptual take. The four larger pieces here derive from the artist's fascination with the art/science nexus, which has already resulted in huge 4'x10' foot composite photographs of hundreds of clouds and long, table-mounted arrays of satellite photos. Here he's investigating the 2003 Hubble Ultra Deep Field Image, a million-second exposure looking back in space-time thirteen billion years to just after the big bang. In "Part 1," Fandell ironically double-prints the appropriated image out of register and focus so that it appears to be a 3D image for which we lack the requisite red and blue specs (for Doppler-shifted light waves?). Another photo depicts the handwritten fraction 12,999,999/13,000,000 — what we don't know about the big picture. "Forever" assembles multiple photos of the Hubble telescope itself into an irregular white circle set against the blackness of space — a ring like a particle collider, or utopia-style space station, or spiked medieval instrument of enhanced interrogation, or the mythic serpent Ouroboros, eating its own tail. Through July 25 at **Traywick Contemporary** (895 Colusa Ave., Berkeley). Traywick.com or 510-527-1214.

— *DeWitt Cheng*

ART GALLERIES

ABCD Warehouse Space: Challenge of Warehouse Community art exhibit commenting on Oakland Homeless. Through Dec. 31. 1[illegible] Filbert St., Emeryville. [illegible]

Artbeat Salon and Gallery: Ramiro Sagarao Ingram Presenting new works on paper. Opening reception Sat., July 11, 7-9 p.m. July 11-Aug. 22. 1807 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-3690.

Autobody Fine Art: Artificial Joseph Arbolo Howard the Installation: Because what is real and what is synthetic. Featuring work by Clint Peterson, Andy Gouveia, Mette Coad-Whiting, Liz Maher, Marti Sollenoder, Chad Burke, Cissy Podovia, Ramiro Sagarao-Ayes and Noonan Henrick, plus an installation by T. Joseph Elms. Opening reception July 10, 7-10 p.m. catered by Flying Marlins Catering of Moon. July 10-Aug. 16. 1517 Park Street, Alameda.

Bedford Gallery: Full Silver A Silver Gallery of Skate Art Exhibition features more than 400 decks borrowed from artists, skaters, and companies from across the country. Opening reception Thurs., July 9, 6-8 p.m. Through Sept. 13. 1601 Civic Dr. (Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts), Walnut Creek. 925-295-1417. BedfordGallery.org.

Berkeley Art Center: Paradise & Paradox Group exhibition featuring work by Kana Baum, Jeanne Beggs and India Mariana Moore. Through July 26. **Nature Walk Label:** Works & Conversation Sam Rosen, John Lake, and Kathleen Cramer discuss art and nature. Moderated by Ramiro Whitaker. Thu., July 9, 7 p.m. $7. 1275 Walnut St., at Live Oak Park, Berkeley. 510-644-6893. BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Berkeley Art Museum: Human/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet Exhibition explores relationship between human nature and the natural world. Featuring work by Mark Dion, and [illegible] Through [illegible] Aug. 23. [illegible] Diana Thater and Xu Bing. Through Sept. 27. 2626 Bancroft Ave. (UC Berkeley campus), Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.berkeley.edu.

Craft and Cultural Arts Gallery: The Many Faces of Frida Frida Kahlo group exhibition curated by Rachel-Anne Palacios. Ceremony by Danza [illegible] group [illegible] plus Cuicati music by Taco Linda and the Luna Nueva Band. July 13-Aug. 28. 1515 Clay St. (State of California Office Building Atrium), Oakland. 510-622-9150. OaklandCulturalArts.org.

Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts: Public Art Tours Fifty-minute docent-led public art tours. Call 925-295-1417 to make reservations. Second Saturday of every month, 11 a.m. Continues through Aug. 29. **Public Art Tours** Fifty-minute docent-led public art tours. Call 925-295-1417 to make reservations. Second Saturday of every month, 11 a.m. Continues through Aug. 29. 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-943-7469. DLRCA.org.

Eclectic Gallery: This Town Group show featuring work by Dan Albanian, [illegible] Coburty, Aliou [illegible], Alana Dellay, Paul Graf, Joe Hagama, John Howard, Aaron Johansen, Larry Jones, Eric Joyner, Janna Katz, Ross Alsoden, Susie Malonbeo-Ralch, Patrice [illegible], Crystal Marcy, Fletcher Rosen, Christopher Peterson, Gareth Pykovich, Andrew Jay Sankstand, John Barnaby, Laurie Search, Stephen Taylor, Cynthia Tuth, Peter Tunnington, and Katherine Westerhout. Through Aug. 10. 10902 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-364-7268. EclecticGallery.com.

Ecsa Center: What Goes around Comes Round Local artists present new paintings as records and record covers. Nothing over $100. Through July 18. 1301 Carlot Pl. (#115), Oakland. 510-385-1720. TheEcsaCenter.com.

Ego Park Gallery: Dreams Layer New drawings and sculpture by Mark Inglis Taylor and [illegible]. Through Aug. 1. 482 23rd St., Oakland. 510-873-8045. EgoPark.org.

KALS Warehouse Room: Howard Sky: Overlooking the Art of Through Zurag Artist and calligrapher Nermandakh Tsultem adapts a traditional Mongolian aesthetic. Through July 15. 2222 Fulton St., [illegible] Floor, Berkeley. 510-64[illegible]. EAS.berkeley.edu.

Inferno Gallery: JC Garrett Solo exhibition of digital prints. Through July 25. 4431 San Leandro St., Oakland. 510-435-4843. InfernoGallery.com.

Dreams of Venus Art, Dreams of the Other: Eye & Other Student/Faculty

PRO ARTS
HAS MOVED

Join us at the new gallery for
BAY AREA CURRENTS 2009
Selections by Kevin B. Chen, Intersection for the Arts

PRO ARTS
Pro Arts at Oakland Art Gallery
150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland
(Entrance on Kahn's Alley)
www.proartsgallery.org 510-763-4361

Musical Mondays
Jack London Square – On the Waterfront
Live Music 5:30 – 8:00 [illegible]

Start Monday with musical entertainment, refreshing cocktails, balmy breezes and a chance to challenge your friends to a game of checkers, dominoes, backgammon [illegible]

[illegible] Ira Khan
[illegible] Carlos Godinez
[illegible] Carmen Milagro
July 20 Bobby Young
July 27 Lava

[illegible]

[illegible]

For a complete listing of special events: [illegible]

The Girl of the Silver West

The Ballad of Baby Doe

by Douglas Moore

In English with English supertitles

Julia Morgan Theatre
2640 College Avenue, Berkeley

Conducted and Directed by Jonathan Khuner
Sets and Projections by Jeremy Knight

BERKELEY OPERA
www.berkeleyopera.org

Saturday, July 11, 8:00 pm
Wednesday, July 15, 7:30 pm
Friday, July 17, 8:00 pm
Sunday, July 19, 2:00 pm

EAST BAY EXPRESS
Media Sponsor

TICKETS: (925) 798-1300
or www.willowstickets.org

COMMUNITY LIVING

East Bay Cohousing: Building Sustainable Communities

New Downtown Oakland approved site
first new-build community in a decade
free initial group-formation meeting
Friday 5:30-7:30, Swan's Market Cohousing
Common House, 930 Clay St., Old Oakland

"Instant Cohousing": 10-home move-in-ready
nextdoor to Kaiser Med Center, Piedmont Ave.
Seller financing! "Free look" 30-day evaluation
Meet onsite: Sunday 5-6 PM, 3846 Howe St.

Cohousing Crawl walking tour: Berkeley-Oakland-Emeryville
visit 4 cohousing neighborhoods by foot&bus Sun 10AM-4PM
Advance registration required: visit website or call us

Growing Community workshop
w/Diana Leafe Christian
Sat-Sun 9 AM-5:30 PM
2105 MLK @ Center, Berkeley
+ Commonwealth Club/SF Thurs eve

(510) 868-1627 www.ebcoho.org

PICKS

Gale Hart's "Forced to Wear Makeup."

Choice Parts

We who consume meat and products based on animal research usually distance ourselves from what agribusiness, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics do behind closed doors with a certain ironic detachment. Roald Dahl's eponymous story "Pig," a parody of Candide, is a good example: a naive young man, raised vegetarian by his aunt Glosspan, no less (conflating Pangloss and gravy preparation), discovers pork and ends up in the wrong part of a slaughterhouse, passing from "this, the best of all possible worlds... into the next." **Gale Hart**'s new paintings examine the human abuse of power toward people and animals, and despite their handsomely patterned silhouettes, they're serious stuff: In "Forced to Wear Makeup," a gunwoman aims at a companion in a rabbit head; in "Property," a man compels a dog to heel. Also showing: **CJ Mammarella**'s drawings of nude women, some animal headed or masked, and **Shelly Cournoyer**'s mythology-themed metal sculptures. *Choice Parts* runs through July 25 at **Front Gallery** (35 Grand Ave., Oakland). FrontGalleryOakland.com or 510-444-3100. — *DeWitt Cheng*

JC Garrett

Marketing mavens first joined political campaigns in the 1960s, and forty years later we now enjoy the seamless integration between messages selling us soap, sex, snobbery, salvation, and security. Huxley's consumerist paradise of feelies, orgy-porgy, and centrifugal bumble-puppy (i.e., entertainment, sex, and sports) masks the darker, unseen Orwellian realities of Empire. **JC Garrett**'s colorful digital print assemblages combine commercial visual flair with scathing satire, has brutally cheery visions montage-style pillorying Bush, Cheney, and Rice in recent years to good effect. Here, pondering possible ecocollapse due to human stupidity, he finds new exemplars of what he terms "the human epidemic": the flirtatious, vacuous Palin surrounded by voluptuous feline cuties and leering wolves; a former Nazi who now is saved, and serves as savior; strongmen Berlusconi, Mugabe, and Fujimori, and, ringed by starlet and bombs and six pointed mother stars, the pious man of the people and chief (d[illegible]) [illegible]. Through July 25 at **Inferno Gallery** (440 San Leandro St., Oakland). InfernoGallery.com or 415-336-6855. — *D.C.*

Perceive & Connect

Ka[illegible] B. [illegible] Briggs, and Dr. Rita Mariana Moore are exhibiting color photographs, assemblages, and paintings, respectively, at Berkeley Art Center. [illegible]'s color photographs are lyrical and ironic: A looping pool skimmer covered with leaves visually links depths, surface, and sky, while ice-cream slabs melt on a hot curb, and doughnuts lie in a shallow stream like stepping-stones or life preservers. Briggs crafts surreal figures from recycled wood; [illegible] life-size, leather-toned figures have an eerie vibe despite their mythological titles ("drill, baby, drill," "Earth Mother"); the smaller [illegible] pieces suggest columns, finials, and balusters for a visionary architecture. Moore's layered works on gesso-glazed linen over panel feature galaxies of hand-drawn Wingding-like elements — cupolas, circles, dots, squares, clock dials, map pins — hovering at different visual "depths" — floating signifiers in Earth orbit: space junk? *Perceive & Connect* runs through July 26 at Berkeley Art Center (1275 Walnut St., Berkeley). BerkeleyArtCenter.org or 510-644-6893. — *D.C.*

M&G

[illegible] Student exhibition showcases [illegible] of the Mind's Eye, Student Sculpture: Oakland 101, Introduction to Sculpt., Introduction to [illegible], and [illegible] Gallery (taught by [illegible]). Through Aug. 30. Free. 3001 Chapman St., Oakland. 510-437-[illegible]. [illegible]

Johansson Projects. Back Stories: Works by Evan B. Harris and [illegible]. Through Aug. 1. 2300 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-9140. JohanssonProjects.net.

John F. Kennedy University Arts and Consciousness Gallery. Richmond Sunrise: Large-scale black and white photography exhibition by Philip [illegible]. Through July 25. 2956 San Pablo Ave. (2nd floor), Berkeley. 510-649-0470. JFKU.edu/gallery.

La Peña Cultural Center. La Peña at 34: A Gallery in Murals: Three original portable murals commissioned by La Peña to Bay Area artists Ray Patlan (Todo Cambia / Everything Changes), Susan Leddy ([illegible]), [illegible] and Juana Alicia Montoya (La Musica y El Mar / The Music and The Sea). Through July 31. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

Lindsey Gallery. Alameda Is Art: A [illegible] Exhibition: Exhibit featuring advanced sculpture [illegible] from Cal State East Bay. Through July 15. [illegible] Piedmont Ave., Oakland.

Luka's Taproom & Lounge. Studio Dog Arts and Craft Weekend: Arts & crafts bazaar with work by local artists. Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Continues through Sept. 30. [illegible] Ave., 2221 Broadway, Oakland. 510-451-4677. LukasOakland.com.

Mercury 20 Gallery. Ghost and Glass and [illegible]: [illegible] work by Mary Curtis Ratcliff and Anna Vaughan (Ghost and Video) and Julie Alvarado, Aaron Carman, Kathleen King, Joan Weld (Forecast). Through Aug. 1. 25 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-4920.

Oakland Public Library, Lakeview Branch. States of Grace: [illegible] acrylic, multimedia, collage, and illustrated works. Through July 31. 550 El Embarcadero, Oakland. 510-238-7344. OaklandLibrary.org.

Oakopolis Creativity Projects. Painting from a Work Public: [illegible] brings the work of master painter Leigh Hyams together with Sing Murphy, Kay Steelman, Logan Payne, Kelly Roberts, Eve Lyon, John Weeks and Jan Camp, joined by Adam Parsons in July. Through July 11. 447 25th St., Oakland.

Pro Arts. Bay Area Awards 2009. Selections by [illegible], Introduction for the Arts: Group exhibition featuring work by Bert Bergen, Adam Friedman, [illegible] Hadley, Gwen Anderson, [illegible], Patrick McKenzie, Stephanie Metz, Billy O'Callaghan, [illegible], Elizabeth [illegible], Ann Potts, and Annie Vought. Artists Talk: Thurs., July 16, 6 p.m. Through July 24. 550 2nd St., Oakland. 510-763-4361. ProArtsGallery.org.

Red Door Gallery. Creativity: Featuring installations by Kimberley Campisano and [illegible]. Through July 31. 410 28th St., Oakland.

Richmond Art Center. Clayton and Betty Bailey: Robots and Watercolors: Through July 18. **Inventing a Future, Robots and [illegible]:** [illegible], watercolors, colored-pencil drawings, and installations by [illegible], Clayton Bailey and Betty Bailey. Through July 18. **Kurt Weld: Machinations:** [illegible] installations by Kurt Weld. Through July 18. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. TheRichmondArtCenter.org.

Rowan Morrison Gallery. The Logic Tools and Other New Work: Solo exhibition of graphite works on paper by Steven Barrett. Through July 31. 330 40th St., Oakland. 510-384-5344. RowanMorrison.com.

Sacred Rose Tattoo / SRT Gallery. [illegible]: The Art of [illegible]: Art informed by comic books, cartoons, and punk rock, [illegible]. Through July 28. 2720 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. SacredRoseTattoo.com.

San Pablo Arts Gallery. Mind & Ink: Digital photography by John Wehrle and [illegible] by Virginia Rigney. Through July 27. One Alvarado Sq. (13831 San Pablo Ave., Civic Center), San Pablo. 510-[illegible]. CI.San-Pablo.ca.us.

Shot Gallery. Imaginary Landscapes: New Paintings and Sculptures by [illegible]: Through Aug. 14. Free. 6277 Telegraph Ave., Oakland.

Swarm Studios + Gallery. Is A [illegible] the Milk?: Video installation by Andrea Goldman. Through Aug. 2. 560 2nd St., [illegible], Oakland. 510-839-2787. SwarmStudios.net.

The Compound. Anatomies: Art by Kari Marboe based on emotional and physical effects of medical experiences, and Adrien Van Allen's works exploring the intersection of science and technology. Through Aug. 3. 6604 San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 510-655-9019. TheCompoundGallery.com.

The Artspace. Paint by Oakland Group Show: Contributing artists include [illegible], William Cunn[illegible], and Carmelo [illegible]. Through July 29. 788 40th St., Oakland. TheArtSpace.com.

THEATER & DANCE

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

About Time: Ioni Zaporah & Bob Ernst Improvisers Bob Ernst and Ruth Zaporah present physical theater. Sat., July 11, 8 p.m. $20. Western Sky Studio, 2547 Eighth St. (at Dwight Way), Berkeley. 510-848-4878.

[illegible]: The Ballad of Baby Doe Jonathan Khuner directs this opera by Douglas Moore set in 19th-century Colorado. Sat., July 11, 8 p.m., Wed., July 15, 7:30 p.m., Fri., July 17, 8 p.m., Sun., July 19, 2 p.m. $18-$48. Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542. JuliaMorgan.org.

Copenhagen [illegible] Frayn's dramatization of a secret meeting between the scientist Niels Bohr and the [illegible] Werner Heisenberg of Nazi-occupied [illegible]. Directed by Tom Collins. July 10-11, 8 p.m., Sun., July 12, 2:30 p.m., $18. Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Pl., Richmond. 510-232-4031, masquers.org.

East 14th Street: True Tales of a Reluctant Player Don Reed's autobiographical one-man show about growing up with his hustler father in Seventies-era East Oakland. Fridays, 8 p.m., Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., Sundays, 7 p.m. Continues through July 18. $20-$30. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. (between 21st and 22nd sts.), San Francisco.

[illegible] One-act plays by Lower Bottom Playaz [illegible] Marvin X and Opal Palmer Adisa. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through July 25. $15. Sister Thea Bowman Memorial Theater, 920 Peralta St., Oakland. 510-208-1912.

[illegible] David Gin[illegible] directs the opera set in ancient Beijing, where a beautiful princess condemns would-be suitors to death. Sung in Italian with English supertitles, produced by Bryan Nies. Sat., July 11, 8 p.m., Tue., July 14, 8 p.m., Fri., July 17, 8 p.m., Sun., July 19, 2 p.m. $48-$100. Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-943-7469. [illegible]

Jack Goes Boating Bay Area Premiere of Bob Glaudini's romantic comedy about a [illegible] who [illegible] two friends to help him get a girl. Directed by Joy Carlin. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 & 7 p.m. Continues through July 19. $20-$45. Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-843-4822, AuroraTheatre.org.

Lady Susan World premiere of Christine O'Brien's stage production based on the Jane Austen novel. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 3 p.m. Continues through July 26. $15-$25. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-1000. BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival With alternating performances of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream and Anton Chekhov's The Seagull. Directed by Lisa A. Tromovitch. For tickets call 888-695-3300 or visit LivermoreShakes.org. Starting July 9. Thursdays-Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 9. $15-$35. Concannon Vineyard, 4590 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

Love Letters Play about the [illegible] between [illegible]. Starting July 10. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., Saturdays, 2 p.m., Sundays, 3 p.m., Wednesdays, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 2. $30. Campbell Theatre, 636 Ward St., Martinez. 925-798-1300.

The Master & The Margarita Expressive performance by Four Ladies Theatre, adapted from Mikhail Bulgakov's novel. Starting July 17. Thursdays-Sundays, 8 p.m. Continues through July [illegible]. $10-$15. Ghost Town, 2110 San Pablo Ave., Oakland. [illegible]

Thoroughly Modern Millie Karen A.C. Carlin directs the Contra Costa Civic Theatre production about a young woman trying to make out her future in New York City. With music direction by Joe Simiele and choreography by Liz Caffey. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through July 19. $15-$24. Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9132, CCCT.org.

More Listings Online

Get info about dozens more theatrical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

DANCE-PERFORMANCE

[illegible] Kali's 3rd Annual Fundraiser [illegible] and Lawn music and dance. Fri., July 10, 7 p.m. $10-$20. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

LIVE VARIETY

[illegible] With more than 40 dancing lions, elephants, swans, monsters, and a jellyfish that glows in the dark. Dancers perform [illegible] classic and contemporary dance in "Seasons" from Vivaldi's Winter, Carmen Suite, and [illegible] number and "[illegible]" from A Chorus Line. Sat., July 11, 2 & 4 p.m. $8-$18. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800.

Musical Mondays With live music, cocktails and board games, including Scrabble, chess, pick-up-sticks, and Candy Land. At [illegible] right outside Heinold's First and Last Chance Saloon. Mondays, 5:30-8 p.m. Continues through July 27. free. Heinold's First and Last Chance Saloon, 48 Webster St., Oakland.

Temescal Street Cinema Movies by local [illegible] projected on the side of the Bank of the West building. Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Continues through July 16. free. Temescal Neighborhood, 49th St. at Telegraph Ave., Oakland.

Tower Sounds: Ancient Voices and Electronics [illegible] concert featuring [illegible]. [illegible] will lead a group of outside musicians in the premiere live performance of a piece commissioned by Magnes. Sun., July 12, 3 p.m. $20. Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. 510-549-6950, Magnes.org.

Waterfront Flicks Outdoor movie screenings at the east lawn across from the new Jack London Market Building. Plus trivia and dinner specials. For info visit JackLondonSquare.com. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 20. free. Jack London Square, 11 Washington St. (foot of Broadway), Oakland. 510-[illegible], JackLondonSquare.com.

COMEDY

Comedy Night Hosted by Tony Sparks. Thursdays, 8 p.m. free. BrainWash Cafe, 1122 Folsom St., San Francisco. 415-861-3663, BrainWash.com.

Comedy Off Broadway With a rotating cast of comedians between [illegible] Comedy Central, Late Night Shows. For info visit ComedyOffBroadwayOakland.com. Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. [illegible] Washington Inn, 495 Tenth St., Oakland. 510-452-1776.

Tuesday Night Mic w/ a rotating lineup of SF Comedy College alumni. Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. $5. San Francisco Comedy College, 808 Mason St. #700, San Francisco. 415-921-2051, SFComedyCollege.com.

Open Mic Comedy presented by SF Standup. [illegible] Annie's Social Club, 917 Folsom St., San Francisco. 415-974-1585, AnniesSocialClub.com.

[illegible] Showcase w/ rotating acts. Fridays, 8 p.m. $12-$15, http://www.sfcomedycollege.com/. San Francisco Comedy College, 808 Mason St. #700, San Francisco. 415-921-2051, SFComedyCollege.com.

SF Comedy Jukebox Sundays, 8 p.m., [illegible] Punch Line, 444 Battery St., San Francisco. 415-397-4337, SF.PunchlineComedyClub.com.

[illegible] Day Show rotating acts. Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m. $5. San Francisco Comedy College, 414 Mason St. #705, San Francisco. 415-921-2051, SFComedyCollege.com.

Thursday Night Fling w/ rotating acts. Thursdays, 8 p.m., $5. www.sfcomedycollege.com/. San Francisco Comedy College, 808 Mason St. #700, San Francisco. 415-921-2051, SFComedyCollege.com.

PICKS

Charlie Murphy

Before Chappelle's Show aired on Comedy Central, Charlie Murphy was best known as the unheralded and neglected older brother of heavyweight comedian Eddie Murphy. The elder Murphy is, in fact, every bit as wry and ribald as his more-famous sibling, but nobody really knew it until Chappelle began airing his sketch series, *Charlie Murphy's True Hollywood Stories*. The segment allowed Murphy to gossip about eccentric pop stars of the Eighties (Prince and Rick James among them), and reenact his adventures as a straight man in a strange world. His story about playing basketball against "Prince and the Revolution" was undoubtedly one of the funniest things ever to air on Comedy Central. This year Murphy launched his own comedy series on Crackle.com, with fake celebrity interviews, infomercials for things like "head hairspray," and all the rumor-mongering that helped build his career. And he finally earned the right to talk about himself in third person. He'll grace **Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse** (5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton) Thursday, July 9, through Sunday, July 12. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $30-$45. TommyTs.com — *Rachel Swan*

East 14th Street: True Tales of a Reluctant Player

Don Reed has turned his autobiography into a melodrama and gotten away with it. After all, the main characters are there: His hustler father and fragile, penniless mother, the rich, befuddling stepfather who cancels Christmas and makes everyone convert to a religion "that rhymes with 'Jehovah's Witness'"; the brother who's a ladies' man, and the other brother who "wants to be a lady." Combine that with the gritty environment of East Oakland in the 1970s, and you have a story that's already wonderful on its face. But Reed made it even better in his new one-man show ***East 14th Street: True Tales of a Reluctant Player*** by turning his childhood tragedies into side-splitting comedy. Using a sparse stage set and an era-appropriate funk soundtrack, he flits around the stage, doing impersonations of his family and all the strange characters who populated their world. He takes people who could easily be objects of derision (pimps, prostitutes, religious zealots, and all forms of low-class criminal) and makes them endearing. To watch that alchemy onstage is nothing short of amazing. Through July 18 at **the Marsh** (1062 Valencia St., San Francisco). $20-$50. TheMarsh.org — *R.S*

Jack Goes Boating

Buoyed by a fast-paced, quippy script and sharply edited scenes that cut into one another, Bob Glaudini's 2007 play ***Jack Goes Boating*** is formatted like a sitcom, but without the laugh track. The setting is modern New York City, a city populated by aggressive strivers like Jack and Lucy who apply their work ethic to everything from limo driving to selling bereavement seminars in [illegible]. Into this world walks sweet, lovable Jack, a slacker whose Rastafarian cassette tapes and white-person dreadlocks mark him as an interloper. Nonetheless, Jack is looking for love — and he finds it in Jittery Connie, a woman whose eccentricities include an acute phobia of men. The two seem perfect for each other. Aurora Theatre's rendition of the play, directed with verve by Joy Carlin, is an *Annie Hall*-style romance that's as much about maturity and alienation as it is about finding a soul mate. Actors Amanda Duarte (playing Lucy) and Gabriel Marin (Clyde) are hilarious as the play's bickering married couple, but even they are bested by Danny Wolohan, whose big-eyed, vacuous stare and plodding movements make him a perfect, believable Jack. Through July 19 at **Aurora Theatre** (2081 Addison St., Berkeley). $28-$42. AuroraTheatre.org — *R.S*

Charlie Murphy.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE

TOO BIG TO FAIL

A Satire of Monumental Proportions

UPCOMING SHOWS:
July 16, Montclair Ball Field, Montclair, 7:00 p.m.
July 18, Cedar Rose Park, Berkeley, 2:00 p.m.
July 19, Cedar Rose Park, Berkeley, 2:00 p.m.
July 31, Willard Park, Berkeley, 6:30 p.m.
August 1, Willard Park, Berkeley, 2:00 p.m.
August 6, Lakeside Park, Oakland, 7:00 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC HALF HOUR BEFORE SHOWTIMES

ALL SHOWS FREE!

For complete summer schedule visit:
www.sfmt.org

Don't Miss a Single Issue. Get the Express Delivered to Your In-box.

EastBayExpress.com/Newsletters

Earn a Grad Degree with Peace Corps!

75 Countries of Service
90+ Master's Programs.

PeaceCorps
Info Session
Monday July 20 6:30PM
Rockridge Library 5366 College

www.peacecorps.gov | 800.424.8580

EXPRESSIONS gallery

Kids are Us
FUN FAMILY DAY
Sunday July 12, 1-5 PM
[illegible]

POETRY READING AND OPEN MIKE
July 17, 7-9 PM
[illegible]

2035 Ashby Ave. (1/4 block from Ashby Bart)
Hours: Wed - Sat 12 - 6 PM and Sun 12 - 3 PM
510-644-4930 www.expressionsgallery.org

Goods & Services

Help Wanted
Weekly grocery shopping/ housecleaning for semi disabled El Cerrito woman 2 hrs./week, preferably morning Carol 510-525-3225

Photoshop Expert
Photo alterations, product mock-ups web blasts. Reasonable rates.
Call Marc 415 577 3972
www.RolondGraphicArts.com

Christy Bertani Bookkeeping
20 years computerized accounting experience for small businesses throughout the East Bay
510-849-2545

Workers Compensation Attorney
For injured workers. Experienced Attorney will insure you get full Compensation and Benefits. Free Consultation Call 925 376 5410

Personal Care Attendant Needed
Disabled male seeks personal care attendant for Fridays, approximately 5-9PM
Call 510 549 1021 for details.

Are You Struggling "With Sex"
porn prostitutes cyber sex, masturbation, anonymous sex or ? Join 100's of other "success" stories who have converted their compulsive sex into positive sexuality, success in business and relationships.
George Collins, MA,Sexual Compulsions Specialist 13 years experience says. I can help YOU 925-932 0201 compulsionsolutions.com

SHAKUHACHI INSTRUCTION
(Japanese bamboo flute) Private lessons by master flutist John Singer For more info contact **John at johnsinger56@gmail.com**

Hauling U Call We Haul
Professional, prompt, reliable Get rid of your old junk! Business and residential. Environmentally friendly Free estimates
510 872 7380

Deborah's Home Repairs
Carpentry electrical plumbing tile and construction. Specialty Creative Carpentry
18 Years Experience
510-520-2007

You got r problem? Forgetaboutit!
Fazule & Sons Plumbing

Residential & Commercial
Check out our great customer reviews on Yelp.com!
Call Tony 510 534-5490.
Lic #798031
Your brown is my green!

Lams Gardening Service
and All Types of Hauling & Clean up Landscaping. New Yard Rock, Bark, Soil Rototilling New Lawn, Sod, Sprinkler and Drip Systems. **Tree Service:** Trimming and Topping. Monthly Care Free Estimates!
510 508 6878

Cottage Inn At Lake Tahoe
Your place to stay on the West Shore Charming theme rooms include full breakfast.
1 800-581-4073 www.thecottageinn.com

Pregnant? Considering Adoption?
Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. Living Expenses Paid.
Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

West Maui Vacation Rentals
Quam Properties. A family owned and operated company with over 25 years experience in Hawaii Contact us today for all your West Maui vacation rental needs.
1 888-665 1315 **www.quamproperties.com**

Sullivan Properties
West Maui's All Available Condos
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Rentals
Call 1-800-332 1238
Visit: www.MauiResorts.com

Oakland $895+ 510-658-2295
1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom, Near Berkeley Bart bus & freeway No Pets/Section 8
EENPM 800 473 4336

Oakland / Piedmont $1250
1/2 off 1st month! Large 2BD/2BA Upscale complex. Garage parking No Section 8/pets. 561 Oakland Ave.
EENPM 510 215-1812 or 800-473-4336

Private Secure Offices
Offices for Rent 4408 Market Street, Oakland $400 146sf $500 191 sf $550 220 sf $625 270 sf Discount for two or more offices. Contact Leslie @ 510 589 5580 OtherProfessionals are Urban Designer Architects, Landscape Architects, Civil Engineers and other businesses. Potential for collaboration on larger projects see www.UrbanDesignWest.com We are located four blocks from Emeryville nine blocks from the MacArthur BART Station with ample on street parking. All Utilities Include Units share one bathroom with granite counter top entry system security camera, DSL, secure mailboxes.

All Areas - Houses For Rent
Browse thousands of rental listings with photos and maps. Advertise your rental home for Free! www.RealRentals.com (AAN CAN)

Guitar/Bass Repair
Free Estimates, Free Pickup & Delivery Fret Jobs, Mods, Set ups and Restoration.
Aaron@MarciGuitars.com 925-595-5590

All Areas-Rentmates com
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps Find your roommate with a click of the mouse www.Rentmates.com (AAN CAN)

Berkeley $650
Pure Vegetarian House. Dairy Ok. No Drugs/Alcohol. Sauna Large Room. Friendly 510-843 1756

Spectacular 108 Acre NH Lakefront Estate & Horse Farm.
The Most Amazing Property Available Anywhere $5,000,000 See Pictures At http://ViewWebPage.com/4PYS or Email: bendbenson@gmail.com (AAN CAN)

Free Foreclosure Listings
Over 200,000 properties nationwide
Low Down Payment.
Call Now! 1 800-446-1328 (AAN CAN)

Powerage Amp & Electronic
Specializing in Tube Amplification Vintage to Modern. Service, Repair Restoration and Mods. Mesa Boogie Authorized Technician Quality Audio Tubes and Parts Oakland, CA
510-846-9133 TECH@PWRAGE.COM
www PWRAGE.COM

Affordable Analog Recording
24 Track Analog 24 Bit Digital $35.00 hr
Randy Burk 510 567 8572 Oakland
StoutRecordingStudio.com

Saxophone and Piano Lessons
Play music for the joy of it. Jazz. blues. improvisation. Patient, supportive teacher. All ages welcome Specialty Adult Beginners.
Call Evan at 510-436-0504

Great deal! 2002 Suzuki Hayabusa,
$2900 Colour Gold. Milage 10000. Engine Size (cc) 1300 Color Gold. Custom RC components halogen rims, front (17inch) & back (18inch) Contact info:
bakakermot@gmail.com or 443-568-0702

Brand New Laptops & Desktops.
Bad credit No credit No Problem
Small weekly payments Order & get Free Nintendo WII system!
1-800-816-2232 (AAN CAN)

Albany
FORD-SUBARU
Award Winning Service and Parts
Are open 8 AM to Midnight,Monday-Friday
Top-rated in customer satisfaction
920 San Pablo at Marin Downtown Albany
For appointments call 510 528 1244

Renovation Celebration!
July 11 9 am-5 pm
Free ecobag
for 1st 200 shoppers!
Door opening specials
Berkeley 2058 University Ave
North Oakland 6624 San Pablo Ave
Oakland Plaza 2005 E 14th St
Pleasant Hill 559 Contra Costa Blvd
www.eastbaygoodwill.org

goodwill

Boyd's Body & Auto Repair
Complete Automotive Service Center
Serving the East Bay for over 25 years
TOWING SERVICES AVAILABLE
510 654 0425

High Quality, Low-Cost Computer Service
- **Home or Business**
- **Virus Removal**
- **Upgrades**
- **Special Rates for Nonprofits**
- **Network Setup**

At your Location or in our Shop

510 236-7000
www.ReliaTech.org
ReliaTech

Lams Gardening Service
AND ALL TYPES OF HAULING & CLEAN-UP
510-508-6878

Custom Leaf
TEA COMPANY
What's your flavor? Customize your own tea at Custom Leaf. Our gardens hand blended and packed teas are wonderful gifts for yourself or someone special. Wholesale accounts welcome

FREE COUNSELING
drop in mon thu 6 45 9pm
2339 durant berkeley ca
510.548.2570 ext. 2250

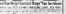
WEST MAUI
VACATION RENTALS
1-888-665-1315 **QUAM**
www.quamproperties.com

IMANI
Auto Brokers

WE FIND THE CAR YOU WANT AT A WHOLESALE PRICE!
510-932-3060

JP Painting Company
Interior & Exterior License #541266
20% OFF
Juan Vento
510-478-5119
juen1234@sbcglobal.net

Four Finish



Need Tax Help? Contact Days' Tax Services

POWERAGE **AMP & ELECTRONIC**
SERVICE • REPAIR • MODS
Mesa Boogie Authorized

THEATER

TOO BIG TO SATIRIZE?

In *Too Big to Fail* the fifty year-old SF Mime Troupe tries to make sense of our global financial crisis

By Rachel Swan

Even in the wake of a global financial crisis, most of us aren't any more knowledgeable about it all than we were two years ago. As you go deeper in the trenches of investment banking, the picayune details get harder and harder to understand. To most of us, it's just a morass of key words and algorithms: Subprime loans = bad. Credit default swaps = bad. AIG, Bernie Madoff, and Citibank = bad, bad, bad. Now try dramatizing the rest of the story, as San Francisco Mime Troupe has done in its new play *Too Big to Fail*. Directed by Wilma Bonet and written by the indefatigable Michael Gene Sullivan, it runs through September 27 in parks throughout Northern California. It's a valiant attempt to distill a very abstruse concept into ninety minutes of banter, musical numbers, and social justice messages.

Too Big to Fail marks the Mime Troupe's fiftieth play, and it's probably one of the most ambitious in terms of the topic at hand. (In previous years, SF Mime Troupe portrayed right-wing fanatics as *Guys and Dolls* gangsters, lampooned the citizens of Kansas, and satirized the idea of "embedded journalism.") As a result, this year is a little flimsier than the Mime Troupe's previous work — financial meltdowns don't exactly lend themselves to clean, coherent storylines. Yet the jokes are intelligent, and the format — satire void of direct caricature — shows SF Mime Troupe moving in an interesting new direction.

Fred Allen

Too Big to Fail unfortunately proves the opposite.

Interesting, but risky. The troupe set its story of modern enterprise and greed in the most ancient place it could think of: an African village, where a griot (played by Sullivan) narrates the story of kind-hearted but covetous Filije (Adrian C. Mejia), and his no-nonsense wife Jenecha (Velina Brown). The two receive a goat (Ramusa, played by Lisa Hori-Garcia) from Jenecha's father (Mime Troupe vet Ed Holmes) as a wedding gift, which seems insufficient to Filije. (He aspires to own a whole herd — perhaps even a goat cheese factory.) Despite his wife's protestations, Filije turns to a lender who proffers the magical gift of credit. Dressed as a sorceress, she seduces Filije with the promise of all the goats his heart desires — along with laptops, flat-screens, iPhones, Bacon bling, perhaps a mortgage on a new hut. Using Ramusa as collateral, Filije signs a contract without reading the fine print, and instantly gets slapped with an exorbitant down payment. His goat is repossessed.

From there, the story gets increasingly tangled, in typical Mime Troupe fashion. Filije sets off to snuff out the evil lender. He encounters a strange mythical land (Wall Street, apparently) where all the residents wear funny green goggles and attempt to buy and sell everything in their midst. Their guru is a leprechaun-type character with a green scepter and a dollar-sign medallion. When Filije questions their ethics, they call him a commie. Meanwhile, back at the village, Jenecha gets saddled with some demon fighting of her own, as her fellow villagers get hooked on modern material pleasures: cell phones with Beyoncé "Single Ladies" ringtones, hip new threads, iPhone applications, Nintendo Wii and SUV goat carts. Villagers are flossing bling, flipping homes, and flashing credit cards. Jenecha, who sings several musical numbers throughout (in a voice that's quite stirring, but not flawless), becomes the play's reluctant moral compass.

Show Details

Too Big to Fail plays at Bay Area parks through September 27. Free. Schedule at SFMT.org.

Naturally, it's a bit gimmicky. To turn an extremely complex narrative into an anti-capitalist parable requires a lot of condensation, a few winking references, and a little suspension of disbelief. In that sense, the African folk tale format serves SF Mime Troupe quite well. It allows them to impose stark contrasts of good and evil on a story with few definitive heroes or villains. The griot frequently interrupts the story to tell a fable about the animal kingdom, which always seems loosely related to the themes of the play. The evil characters all speak in rhyme, using stockbroker patois (i.e., *If you can't pay, it's your crime/That's what I get for lending to people who are subprime* or *We're expanding overseas/So many more peasants to squeeze*). Such antics give Sullivan a chance to flaunt his writing chops.

For all its wit, *Too Big to Fail* is ultimately less satisfying than most of the Mime Troupe's previous work. The theme is to blame. Sullivan and company didn't really have a choice but to cover the economic recession, which is, after all, the biggest news story of the year. They do a decent job of boiling it down to one moral message — that you can't base a global economy on the illusory idea of "consumer confidence." But ultimately, the Mime Troupe was built to skewer Alaskan governors and third party Texas billionaires, not sing the bad economy blues. Perhaps a corporation is never too big to fail, but a financial crisis is definitely too big to satirize. ●

Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

TIME IS MONEY

"don't waste it"

CALL FRED MADRIAGA, C.P.A.

Your Personal C.F.O. • Tax Services

IRS Audit Representation • Divorce Income Tax & Business Evaluation • Construction & Real Estate

MADRIAGA & ASSOCIATES • 5749 DOYLE STREET • EMERYVILLE, CA 94608

TEL: (510) 985 - 1445 • WWW.TEAMTAXPROS.COM • INFO@TEAMTAXPROS.COM

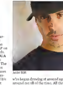
LECTURES & LIT

Paint the Beat

Hip-hop inspires and infuses Justin BUA's art.

In his painting "The DJ," yellow light from a single overhead bulb bathes a slender figure who stands alone, eyes shut, one hand working the controls while another — elongated, knobby, cinnamon-brown — manipulates a vinyl LP on a turntable in a room packed floor-to-ceiling with records. Popular in poster form, it's the work for which **Justin BUA** is best known, and it typifies the Manhattan-born artist's fascination with city life, hip-hop, and the underground. The style he likes to call "Distorted Urban Realism" permeates BUA's new book *The Beat of Urban Art*, which he discusses at **Moe's Books** (2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley) on Tuesday, July 14. Further examples illustrate his narrative of his life — from his 1968 birth "in NYC's untamed Upper West Side" through his years at the prestigious Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Performing Arts and into a burgeoning career in illustration, music videos, and fine art.

"My mother and grandfather were both artists who had a great appreciation for the visual arts," explains BUA,


Justin BUA

who began drawing at around age five. "Therefore art was around me all of the time. All through my life I continued with my art — and even though I became intensely absorbed in the hip hop culture with rap, breaking, and graffiti, art was always the one constant in my life." Honing his graffiti skills on the exposed surfaces of New York City, he gained an admiration for others in the field! — "Dero, Twist, Revolt and Zephyr," to name a few. He also performed widely with break-dancing crews.

"Those activities actually inspired my paintings," he remembers. But so did the Old Masters and their modern counterparts, such as Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Käthe Kollwitz, George Bellows, and Honoré Daumier. "I also love the more contemporary American illustrators like Dean Cornwell, N.C. Wyeth, Howard Pyle, and J.C. Leyendecker," enthuses BUA, whose art adorns his own clothing line.

Because of his penchant for rich colors and soft edges, "most people make the assumption that I paint with oils," BUA notes. Yet "the truth is that I paint exclusively with acrylics." He gives three reasons for this: "I'm incredibly messy when I paint. I throw paint around the studio like a madman and get it all over my clothes." Acrylics, which are water-based, can be laundered out. Moreover, "I find oils to be toxic and a health hazard and acrylics to be the less hazardous of the two." Best of all for a man who loves fast beats, acrylics dry quickly. Their only downside, BUA laments, "is that the colors of acrylics don't hold a candle to the colors of oil paints." When you're at the top of your game, he explains, such drawbacks don't much matter. "It's not the medium you use," the artist asserts. "It's you. There are a few artists out there who use acrylics amazingly well: Sebastian Kruger, Ruben Hackman, Barry Jackson. ... There aren't many, but the ones who use it well — they're amazing."

— Anneli Rufus

LECTURES

¡A Salvador! What My People @ Live Film screening and discussion about Refrerous in El Salvador. Wed., July 8, 7:30 p.m., $8-$10. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

Albany Library Evening Book Group Rosalie Gonzales facilitates this group, which features novels based on "the American experience." Third Wednesday of every month, 7-8 p.m., free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany, 510-526-3720, ACLibrary.org.

Bay Area Free Book Exchange Placing unwanted books with the people who want them. Saturdays, Sundays, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Jun. 1, free. Book Exchange, 10520 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-526-1841.

World about Reading from *The Orange Hare Problem and Other Tales from the Terrors* ... Fri., July 10, 7:30 p.m., free. Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

Gregory L. Tully Discussing *Nine College Hunts*. Tue., July 14, 7:30 p.m., free. Books Inc., 1344 Park St., Alameda, 510-522-[illegible], BooksInc.net.

International Youth Choirs to Sing at San Leandro Public Library Sun., July 12, 2 p.m., free. San Leandro Library, 300 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro.

Justin BUA Illustrator discusses his work. Tue., July 14, 7:30 p.m., free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2087.

Music of the World/La Palabra Sound With MamaCoAtl. Fourth and Second Sunday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. Rebecca's Lounge, 3068 Adeline St., Berkeley.

Pegasus Presents: Dos and ... of Female Poetry from Second and Beyond With poets Craig Santos Perez, Corinne Sinarinas, Fuifuilupe Niumeitolu, Maile Arvin, and Los Humanistas. Mon., July 13, 7 p.m., free. Pegasus Books Downtown, 2349 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-1320, PegasusBookstore.com.

Book Tamale in Conversation Discussing his book *Brainfacture in Energy Madness*. Tue., July 14, 5:30-7 p.m., free. University Books, 2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-548-9585, UniversityPressBooks.com.

Book: Jon Hamburg Reading from *Our No Unhinged: The Human Consequences of the War on Terror*. Thu., July 9, 7:30 p.m., free. Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

Pleasant Hill Library Book Club Second Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m., free. Pleasant Hill Library, 1750 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, 925-646-6434.

Spoiled Tribes Bookbattle Book Signing With graphic novelists Molly Crabapple and John Leavitt, plus a burlesque performance by Sparkly Devil. Sun., July 12, 6:30 p.m., $8. Comic Relief, 2026 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-5002, ComicRelief.net.

The Tea Party Magazine Release of book #18: *The Free Issue*. Thu., July 9, 8 p.m., free. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Zak Smith Writer, illustrator, and frequent ... presents his new book *We Did Porn*. Wed., July 8, 7:30 p.m., free. Moe's Books, 2407 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2087.

SPOKEN WORD

East Poetry Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., book donations requested. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Book Rock Thursdays, 8:30-10:30 p.m., donations accepted. Eastside Cultural Center, 2277 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible].

Last Word Poetry Salon Second Friday of every month, 7 p.m., free. Nefeli Caffe, 1854 Euclid St., Berkeley, 510-845-8374.

Open Mic with Book May Thursdays, 7 p.m., $5. Crossroads Community Center & Coffeehouse, 1351 High St., Alameda, 510-[illegible]-8600, CrossroadsCoffee.org.

Poetic Groove Fridays, 7:30 p.m., free. House of Unity, Eastmont Town Center, 7200 Bancroft Ave., Ste. 230, Oakland, 510-450-8831.

Second Saturday Prose & Poetry Reading Second Saturday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St., Alameda, 510-523-6957, FrankBetteCenter.org.

Spoken Word Open Mic Sign-ups at 7 p.m. Second and Fourth Thursday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. Nomad Cafe, 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-595-5344, NomadCafe.net.

Thursday at Word Beat Thursdays, 7 p.m., free. AngelFire.com/poetry/wordbeat. Mediterranean Cafe, 2475 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-1128.

Written Word Art Open-Mic Night Second and Fourth Friday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. Zocalo Coffeehouse, 645 Washington Ave., San Leandro, 510-569-0332, ZocaloCoffeehouse.com.

PICKS

Leah Steinberg and Debra Grace Khattab

Can't afford theater tickets anymore? Live entertainment costs no more than a cup of café at **Nefeli Caffe** (1854 Euclid Ave., Berkeley) on Friday, July 10, where Last Word presents a reading by poets **Leah Steinberg** and **Debra Grace Khattab** (sample lines: "I am made of healed-over scars,/my hands caress this map of skin,/press the cancerlike weak spots"). 7 p.m., free. *— Anneli Rufus*

Gracie Woodard

The theme of the Oakland Library's Summer Reading Program this year is "Be Creative @ Your Library," with scores awaiting kids who read lots of books. At the **Piedmont Avenue Branch** (160 41st St., Oakland) on Monday, July 13, storyteller/songwriter/puppeteer **Gracie Woodard** helps kick off the program with an interactive presentation. 7 p.m., free. OaklandLibrary.org. *— A.R.*

Nelsie Hildenal

Clara Yen

When **Clara Yen** was a child, her father transformed lessons (such as why teeth must be brushed) and household collections into stories. Her mother told traditional tales from China. At the **Castro Valley Library** (20055 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley) on Monday, July 13, the author of *Why Rat Comes First: A Story of the Chinese Zodiac* tells some of her favorite yarns. 2 p.m., free. ACLibrary.org. *— A.R.*

Dean Kuipers

Converting himself to animal rights while still a child, radical environmentalist Rod Coronado became a saboteur, activist, and fugitive. Some call him an eco-terrorist. *Los Angeles Times* editor **Dean Kuipers** tells his story in *Operation Bite Back: Rod Coronado's War to Save American Wilderness*, which he discusses at **Diesel** (5433 College Ave., Oakland) on Tuesday, July 14. 7 p.m., free. DieselBookstore.com. *— A.R.*

A DIVA'S CLOSET
Clothing • Shoes • Accessories • Plus Sizes
20% off
any single item
restrictions apply w/ ad
Tues – Sat 11 – 7
383 17th St. Oakland 625 8085

The Quest for Vision
Native American Healing Arts & Crafts
-Jewelry
-Healing Tools
-Crystals
-Dreamcatchers
-Medicine Bags
-Photography
-Fetishes
-Flutes
2103 7th St. #315 Berkeley
510-978-9525
www.thequestforvision.com

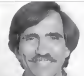
art delivery
backyard art lessons for kids
Art in the backyard, at home, the park or museum!
Sign up before July 4th to recieve $10 off the first lesson
www.artdelivery.info (510) 848 5486

Happiness Lessons

Joy is a choice, says Buddhist teacher James Baraz.

For many of us, the very idea of joy presents a challenge. "Perhaps you can't imagine yourself skipping through a meadow with childlike exuberance," **James Baraz** writes. "Don't worry. Truly happy people are not happy all the time. They feel sad and angry and have the whole range of human emotions." In the "Awakening Joy" course he created and for which he is best known, Baraz isn't "talking about having a syrupy facade or being in denial," but rather invoking "a general feeling of aliveness and well-being that is characterized by engagement with life, meeting its ups and downs with authenticity and perspective. It can look very different from person to person, from a quiet sense of contentment to bubbly enthusiasm."

A cofounder of the Spirit Rock Meditation Center in Marin County, Baraz has practiced *Vipassana* meditation since 1974. And right about now, "the planet is ready for a change of consciousness." As others throughout the burgeoning happiness movement avow, that change is in the smiling and laughing direction.


James Baraz.

"Nobody can bring you happiness," Baraz warns. "Nobody can manufacture happiness for you. You can't get it outside of yourself. There are things that will trigger it," but it nonetheless comes from within. "The happiness and joy that you're looking for are right inside you. We were born into this world with it." The longtime teacher points out that when babies' basic needs have been met, "they squeal with delight," gazing around happily. "We were all like that at some point — so what we need to do is remember how to access it."

Baraz's day-long meditation retreat on Sunday, July 12 at the **Berkeley Buddhist Monastery** (2304 McKinley Ave., Berkeley) is based on *mudita*, which translates to "sympathetic joy" or "joy in the happiness of others." Its activities include silent sitting and walking meditation along with discussion of daily practices to help cultivate this kind of delight — which is basically the diametric opposite of envy. Participants are asked to bring their own lunches; in keeping with the monastery's traditions, these must be devoid of meat, onions, and garlic. Tea is provided, but participants must bring their own cups.

Learning to be happy sounds simple, but it's often difficult. "If you're going to be stretching yourself, if you're going to be finding new ways of being, then you're getting out of your comfort zone," Baraz concedes. "But that's how you grow. And it's worth it, because it might be awkward now, but you keep on doing it and you keep on doing it and then it just becomes something that's more natural to you." After all, we weren't born with guilt, stress, or resentment, Baraz notes, yet those emotions feel natural to most of us now — and "it feels better to grow than to just stay the same and play it safe." 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., suggested donation $20-$40. BerkeleyMonastery.org.

—Anneli Rufus

HEALTH & WELLNESS

American Red Cross Public Blood Drive Call 800-GIVE-LIFE (800-448-3543) or visit BeRedCrossLife.org (Sponsor Code: [illegible]). Thu., July 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Kaiser Fremont, 39400 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont. Fri., July 10, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., free. Alameda County Fire Department Station #12, 3085 143rd Ave., San Leandro.

Birthing From Within 6-Week Childbirth Preparation Series [illegible] Wednesdays, 6:30-9 p.m. Continues through Aug. 19. $250 per couple. Birthways, 1600 Bancroft Ave., Ste. 1, Berkeley.

Introduction to Herbalism Four-week course focuses on herb identification and usage. Mondays, 7 p.m. Continues through July 27. $300. [illegible] Center of Herbal Studies, 1954 Kearney Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

PERSONAL GROWTH

Meditation Recovery A weekly meeting to discuss life-changing principles. Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. Creekside Community Church, 901 Manor Blvd., San Leandro. 510-430-0607. CreeksideCommunity.org.

Chemical Dependency Workshops A weekly workshop for users, friends of users, parents of users, and children of users. Topics rotate weekly. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, free. Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Health Education Center, 400 Hawthorne Ave., Oakland. 510-869-8000.

Food for Thought Readings by Berkeley physician-couple Robins. Thursdays, 6-7 p.m., $15. Grassy Feet Gallery, [illegible] Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

Lunchtime Dreaming David Jenkins, Ph.D. facilitates this weekly discussion group, for which no experience is necessary. Wednesdays, 12-1:30 p.m., $10. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-841-4824. Pages.sbcglobal.net/bfuu.

Mandana Community Recovery Health Friday Night Meditation Meditation, muscle posture and breath technique, chanting exploration, and different styles of meditation. Fridays, 7-9 p.m., free for Mandana CRC members, $3 for nonmembers. Mandana Community Recovery Center, [illegible] St., Oakland. 510-[illegible].

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Core Curriculum Tuesday Nights Courses open to everyone, but highly recommended for people interested in leadership positions in the church. An optional potluck dinner at 6 p.m. will precede worship (7 p.m.) and programs (7:30 p.m.). Call for schedule. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

The Inspired Harmony Voices With Minister Ranny Mills, Patrick [illegible], Jr., Voices of St. John, Paul Wade, the [illegible] Lutheran church Choir, and the St. Bernard Youngun Choir. Call 510-278-9271 or 925-808-2870 for more info. Sun., July 12, 3:30 p.m., free. St. Bernard's Church, 1620 62nd Ave., Oakland.

LGBT Meditation Group Vipassana meditation practice. E-mail [illegible] for info. Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31, free. East Bay Meditation Center, 2147 Broadway Ave., Oakland. 510-268-0696. EastBayMeditation.org.

Meditation, Dharma Talk and Beginner's Night Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., free. Empty Gate Zen Center, 2200 Parker St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

YOGA & BODYWORK

InterPlay as a Life Practice Cynthia Winton-Henry and other InterPlay leaders lead an ongoing class of moving, breathing, improvising, and playing. Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m., $10-$15. InterPlayce, 2273 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-465-2797. InterPlay.org.

Lunchtime Kundalini Yoga Thursdays, 12:15 p.m. Continues through Sept. 30, free. William Shack Conference Room, Sproul Hall (UC Berkeley), Berkeley.

Tai Chi, Meditation, and Qigong With Jeffrey Kessler. Thursdays, 5 p.m., $50-$70 per month. [illegible], 3215 Prince St., Berkeley. 510-704-9607. [illegible].

Yoga for Kids Two workshops led by Rebecca Brown Smith. Thursdays, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 31, $40 per month. Hot Body Fitness Studio, 845 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. HotBody-Fitness.com.

PICKS

Ayurveda Workshop

What you eat and how you eat create a blueprint for how your [illegible] according to the Ayurvedic system of traditional medicine practiced for thousands of years in India. At **Yoga Mandala** (2807 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley) on Sunday, July 12, Abhilash Thorp leads a **workshop** on diet, lifestyle, and creating health and balance via **Ayurveda**. 1 p.m., $55. YogaMandalaStudio.com. *—Anneli Rufus*

Havdalah Bonfire

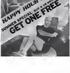
To mark the end of Shabbat, the YeaShOre Community presents a **Havdalah bonfire** at **Emeryville Marina Park** (3300 Powell St., Emeryville) on Saturday, July 11. YeaShOre will provide potatoes for roasting as well as chocolate, kosher marshmallows, and crackers for s'mores. Bring musical instruments and potluck food and drink for more fun. 7:30 p.m., free. YeaShOre.org. *—A.R.*

Raja Yoga Meditation Training

[illegible] and the visual as a [illegible] impurities going out of the whole system through the backside in the form of smoke or vapor are all part of the **Raja Yoga** meditation method. Attend a two-day **training session** at the **Institute of Sri Ramchandra Consciousness** (34329 Heathrow Ter., Fremont) on Saturday & Sunday, July 11 & 12. 9:30 a.m., free. SriRamchandra.org. *—A.R.*

Reality Playings

[illegible] art, entertainment, religion, and ritual, Frank Moore — self-styled shaman, world-renowned disabled performance artist, and 2008 presidential candidate — hosts **Reality Playings** at **Temescal Arts Center** (511 48th St., Oakland) on Friday, July 10. Attendees are invited to bring musical instruments. 8 p.m., free. Eroplay.com/events.html *—A.R.*



BEAUTIFUL LOKS
A holistic approach to locking hair
NO twist, NO wax, NO maintenance
Lok extension, repair, and restoration
free consultation
Lok[illegible] Mo[illegible]
510-[illegible]
beautifuloks@yahoo.com
www.beautifuloks.com

HOLISTIC VETERINARY CARE

COMPLEMENTARY MEDICAL OPTIONS FOR YOUR PET, BOTH ANCIENT AND MODERN

WE ARE HERE TO PROVIDE YOUR PET WITH GREATER QUALITY OF LIFE BY ENCOURAGING NATURAL HEALING THROUGH ACUPUNCTURE, HERBAL THERAPY, CHIROPRACTIC, PULSED SIGNAL THERAPY, AND NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING

1969 Mountain Blvd. Oakland, CA 94611 / 510-339-2600 / www.HolisticVetCare.com

JOIN THE INDIE REVOLUTION

SUPPORT LOCAL, INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES AND ARTISTS!

Email Indie@EastBayExpress.com to receive exclusive Indie Revolution information and offers throughout 2009

JULY IS DEDICATED TO CELEBRATING OUR INDEPENDENTS

SUZAN STEINBERG

CO-OWNER, STONEMOUNTAIN & DAUGHTER FABRICS

PRESIDENT, FINEFABRICSTORES.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITES

EastBayExpress.com ShopOakland.com BuyLocalBerkeley.com SustainableWe.org

Wellness Center Spa

2017 Central Avenue | Alameda | CA | 94501 | Tel (510) 337-0485

The Wellness Center Spa will be giving dance lessons and Yoga every Wednesday starting February 19
Please call to reserve a spot at (510) 337-0485

TOTAL BODY WELLNESS

Rejuvenate and Revitalize

- Increase Energy
- Restored Sleep
- Strengthen Your Immune System
- Foot Care
- Health Meets Beauty
- Detoxification

The Wellness Center Spa

CONTACT US TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email: info@wellnesscenterspa.com
(510) 337-0485 | Visit our website: www.wellnesscenterspa.com

AQUARIUM AGE

A TIME TO SOLIDIFY YOUR FINANCES

For the week of July 8-14, 2009

By Ralfee Finn

Astral-adrenaline surges pulse through daily life this week, making it hard to settle down or settle in. Even those of us who look as grounded as a mountain may be experiencing deep internal volcanic movement. And those who are normally a little spacey may be barely able to feel their feet. We're in the wake of two wobbling celestial events: Uranus went retrograde on Wednesday, July 1, a course correction celebrated by electronic madness as everything from iPods to refrigerators went on the blink. And a Lunar Eclipse on July 7 reversed the "normal" order of things, highlighting issues of safety, security, and survival. Oy. It is a week to chop wood, carry water and apply consciousness to the simple tasks of life.

Uranus is best known as the astrological father of innovation and mother of invention, and its presence is usually experienced as sudden and surprising events that revolutionize reality. We've been in the thrall of a powerful Uranus configuration – a Saturn/Uranus opposition – since last September. Saturn represents structure and limitation, and their opposition signifies powerful challenges to the status quo. The last time this opposition occurred was the mid 1960s, a time of multidimensional revolutions in consciousness and culture. For many astrologers, including myself, this current opposition signaled the economic revolution we are currently experiencing. Since the end of this February, as Saturn went Retrograde, and Uranus moved forward, we have had a slight – okay, infinitesimal – respite from the grueling bad news about the stock market. And some are predicting that we have hit the bottom of the barrel of difficulty and are moving up. I would be cautious about being overly optimistic. The third exact opposition within this cycle will occur on September 15, which means by the beginning of August, as Uranus moves back into a tight opposition with Saturn, we could see even more turmoil. That being said, Uranus thrives on surprise, which translates into anyone's guess about what the next opposition will bring. From a personal perspective, Uranus Retrograde is going to challenge decisions made in the heat of the moment during the last few months. So be prepared for reversals of fortune of every denomination, not just financial.

The July 7 Lunar Eclipse took place along the Cancer/Capricorn axis: the Moon is in Capricorn, the Sun is in Cancer. When the Sun overshadows the Moon, conscious concerns take the lead, and because Cancer and Capricorn are both pragmatic, practical Signs, this eclipse is sure to exacerbate issues of financial survival. Rather than get swept away by amorphous, generalized anxiety, use this eclipse event to identify the next step in solidifying your financial safety. Be aware, eclipses distort time, and often the effect is felt six weeks prior to or after the actual event.

This is a week to keep breathing as often and deeply as possible. Nervous systems of every ilk are feeling the strain of intensity and the more each of us is able to maintain our calm the better for all of us.

If you know your Ascendant and/or your Moon sign, read that too.

ARIES Use your natural sense of adventure to transform your anxiety into excitement. Instead of allowing worry to dampen your enthusiasm, channel that intensity into a bold new plan for the future.

TAURUS The eclipse could provoke communication confusion, as information about where and when gets muddled. Be precise, take your time, and don't allow yourself to be pushed into an uncomfortable commitment.

GEMINI The eclipse challenges your ability to stay focused on your current financial situation. So rather than let your powerful imagination carry you away on a wave of anxiety, just keep putting one realistic foot in front of the other.

CANCER Give yourself permission to think of relationship as a verb rather than a noun, and you'll have a much easier time negotiating the current intensity. Relating is an active process that allows for dynamic interaction.

LEO While it is a cliché, honesty is the best policy. Be true to yourself and you'll stay in your integrity. Be in your integrity with others, and that wholeness will allow all your relationships to flourish and prosper.

VIRGO The eclipse reveals valuable information about friends and associates previously hidden from view. Take your time digesting this data. If you use it wisely, you will be able to transform an old annoying pattern.

LIBRA Career issues dominate daily life as you attempt to figure out where your energy is best spent. As part of your sorting process, pay attention to what feels like a satisfying labor of love.

SCORPIO Certain conversations deliver important information, but the data may not be communicated clearly or directly. So listen closely and pay attention to detail as well as nuance.

SAGITTARIUS Your current financial situation is not just a matter of money. It also has a lot to do with issues of self-esteem and self confidence. Investigate how you can increase your self worth, and the money will follow.

CAPRICORN The eclipse continues to stimulate partnership themes, particularly how to balance the needs of loved ones with personal needs. While this is never an easy balance to establish, it will be worth your time and effort to try.

AQUARIUS Try not to let anxiety undermine your creative flow. Yes, there are challenges to overcome and not every picture is completely rosy, but a negative attitude will only corrupt your enthusiasm. And that would be a shame.

PISCES The eclipse could reveal information you could sense but weren't quite able to identify. As those revelations occur, give yourself time to digest the data before you move into action. ●

For More Info

Ralfee Finn specializes in Transformational Astrology. For readings, call 1-888-937-9264, write P.O. Box 343, New York, NY 10025, visit AquariumAge.com, or e-mail Ralfee@AquariumAge.com. Copyright © 2009 by Ralfee Finn

Mind, Body, Spirit

CALL TO ADVERTISE 510-879-3000

Earth Circles Counseling Center

Holistic Psychotherapy. Help with tough times. We offer effective, compassionate guidance with addiction, depression & anxiety, eating disorders, LGBT issues, relationships, self esteem, spiritual issues, trauma & grief. Sliding Scale.

EarthCirclesCounseling.com
PH 510-601-1929

Body/Mind Transformation

Hypnotherapy, Counseling and Acupressure
40% discount through Aug 31
See www.sarja.com or Call 510-848-7519

Lose 2-8 lbs Every Week

Eat The Foods You Love. Have More Energy. Guaranteed. Natural. Safe. Doctor Recommended. **Win Cash For Pounds Lost**
Call Today! 888-235-8890 www.jlbvitality.com

$30/Session/Vets Free

Hypnotherapy, Reiki, EFT. CA approved HCH Institute, Lafayette, BART
hypnotherapytraining.com 925-283-3941

Therapy Massage

35 Quail Ct. Room #300, Walnut Creek
925-952-9567

Health Care Service

Professional masseuse and masseur offer Thai Style, Swedish, Deep Tissue, Relaxation, Sport Massage, Therapeutic Massage, Foot Massage and Stress Reduction, Pain Relief
311 12th Ave/Clement St., San Francisco, CA
2430 Irving St./34th Ave, San Francisco, CA
415-283-9853 Lic #01296

SensualSense.com

You deserve to feel good. Exquisite touch and care. Sensuality educator and CMT.
Special Economy Pricing
June 510-451-3773

Sequoia Healing Clinic & Spa

Acupuncture, Acupressure, Stress Management and Tuina Therapy/Deep Tissue
Monday-Saturday 10 AM - 8 PM
Women & Men Welcome
1728 Franklin St., Oakland, CA 94612
510-836-3888

NHI Certified Masseur

Offering Swedish, Sports and Deep Tissue Massage. Intuitive, Strong and Energetic. Deep to Gentle Touch. North Oakland Location. Willing to travel to you for a nominal fee.
$65/60 min. $90/90 min.
510-499-8674 Hector, CMT

Medical Marijuana Evaluations

Professional and Affordable Compassionate Health Options
510-465-0420 or 415-255-1200

Sexual Health Therapy

Specializing in Men Over 40 and the somatic nature of sexuality. Treat Erectile Dysfunction
Numbiya Aziz, MHS/CMT 510-663-8168
www.MensHealthSpecialist.com

Studio Abasi

A results oriented skin care, waxing, and makeup studio. We offer a wide array of skin care solutions and spa services. Licensed Esthetician, Shannon Carter Specializes in Skin Care: Facials, Peels, Masks, Vacuudermie.
510-665-3544 skincare@studioabasi.com
2941 College Avenue Berkeley, CA 94705

New Dispensary in Richmond

7 Stars Holistic Healing Center
Located in the Pacific East Mall
3288 Pierce St Suite# M108 (2nd floor)
Richmond 510-527-STARS (7827)

Discover what the media isn't telling you about Oakland's Measure F
oaksterdaminfo.com

Suffering with anxiety or depression?

Think no one understands? Lucinda Bassett does. Get her free tape that will stop the suffering without drugs or alcohol.
Call 800-652-9619

Best known for our 24 hour crisis line and suicide prevention service
Crisis Support Services
has developed expertise in working with:
- At risk populations for suicide
- People affected by traumatic loss, particularly suicide and homicide bereavement.
- Counseling for Older Adults.

Face to face counseling services include individual, couple, family and support groups. Call today for a list of current groups.
1-800-260-0094

Laser and Skin Salon

At Urban Allure, we are proud to offer Laser Hair Removal, Environ Rx Facials, Intense Pulsed Light treatments and other customized aesthetic services and products to help you achieve a fresher you.
urbanalluresf.com 415-399-1300

Free Counseling
Berkeley Free Clinic
Peer Counseling Collective
Drop in Mon-Thu 6:45–9pm
2339 Durant, Berkeley CA
freepeercounseling@gmail.com
510-548-2570 ext. 2250

Marina's Wellness Center

Swedish Massage. Come today and relieve the stress of tomorrow. $30/30 min or $60/60 min. Summer Special, 1 hour for $50. Available Mon-Thur 1PM-8PM, Fri-Sat 10AM-8PM
Call Marina at 925-457-1387

BEST OF THE EAST BAY PARTY AUGUST 7 2009 AMOEBA MAINSTAGE FEATURING 13 BANDS GOAPELE SOCIAL UNREST THE SOULS OF MISCHEIF THE HEAVEN

ILY STATES DIZZY BALLOON MALDROID SUPERFINDS VTO THE THRILL OF IT ALL C U NEXT WEEKEND MYSTIC RAGE SWANN DANGER FRACAS 7TH ST BAND

STEPHEN LIEBERSOHN PHOTOGRAPHY
WWW.STEPHENLIEBERSOHN.COM

FOOD DRINK

AUTHENTIC PERUVIAN IN JACK LONDON SQUARE

Discover the cuisine's pan-hemispheric style at La Furia Chalaca

By Matthew Stafford

Intricate topography, raw ingredients and cultural interaction are the building blocks of a great cuisine. Peru's has to be among the world's finest. The country's dozens of microclimates include tropical rain forest, teeming seashore, and the plateaus and valleys of the Andes, Earth's second-highest mountain range. For millennia the region has produced an incredible abundance of protein and produce — 2,000 varieties of potato, for instance, and an equal number of fresh and saltwater fish, as well as fruit, squash, peppers, and corn in every size, shape, and color. The Inca Empire employed advanced plant-breeding techniques and condiments like chili and peanut butter to advance the continent's most distinctive and complex cuisine. And when the Spanish and Africans arrived in the 16th century with their cooking fat and dairy products, and waves of French, Italian, Chinese, and Japanese immigrants later joined them later, the result was a pan-hemisphere style of cookery that has evolved and improved with age. In fact, Lima's burgeoning culinary scene recently earned the title "Gastronomic Capital of the Americas" (take that, New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco).

La Furia Chalaca
310 Broadway (at Third St.), Oakland, 510-451-4206, LaFuriaChalaca.com. Cash, AE, MasterCard, Visa. Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. & 5-10 p.m. Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Reservations accepted.

Sample Menu

Papas a la Huancaina	$6.50
Causa	$7
Ceviche de Mixto	$17
Seco de Cabrito	$17
Alfajores	$4
Chicha Morada	$2.50

La Furia Chalaca lives up to its heritage. The family-owned restaurant prepares many time-honored dishes in a welcoming, attractive setting. A variety of Latin American vintages are dispensed at a handsomely engraved bar. And the kitchen's devotion to organic produce, freshly caught seafood, and imported Peruvian spices results in a menu of exceptional food.

Potatoes are central to Peruvian cuisine. The tuber is an Andean native. As the locals' staple diet its variations are practically inexhaustible. Primary among them is the richly satisfying *papas a la Huancaina*, in which slices of tender tubers are dressed with a silky, eggy cheese sauce spiked with a hint of chili pepper and garnished with black olives and hardboiled eggs. Another potato-based appetizer, *papa rellena*, is a crisp, puffy mashed-potato fritter stuffed with spiced ground beef, olives, and raisins. But our favorite starter was *causa*. Yellow Peruvian potatoes are pureed and molded into a pillowy cake filled with a moist, spicy chicken salad and draped with a lilac-colored olive dressing.

Peru also is famous for its amazing abundance of seafood. A lot of it makes its way into *ceviche de mixto*, the country's most renowned dish. This is simplicity itself — raw fish marinated in lime juice until "cooked" and firm — and La Furia Chalaca respects the process. Prawns, squid, and big chunks of sea bass emerged from their marinade tangy and luscious, with a sneaky afterbite of chili pepper. Another seafood extravaganza is *parihuela*, a fisherman's fish stew. Here the squid, prawns, and sea bass are simmered in a buttery cilantro-ribboned broth.

A signature Peruvian entrée is *carapulcra*, a long-simmered casserole of diced pork and *chuño*, reconstituted freeze-dried potatoes — a largely unexciting dish. The *seco de cabrito* was more satisfying: two meaty shanks of goat meat, similar to braised osso buco but richer and sweeter, served cassoulet-style with creamy pinto beans plus a mold of al dente rice and nutty, crunchy *cancha* (toasted corn kernels). Equally delectable was *lomo saltado*, a tasty stir-fry out of the country's rich Chinese-Peruvian heritage, in which slender fillets of potato and sirloin mixed it up with onion, tomato, cumin, and cilantro.

La Furia Chalaca's Ceviche de Mixto respects the process.

Chris Duffey

For dessert there's *alfajores*, two flaky, buttery cookies sandwiched with *dulce de leche*, a caramel-like paste made from milk and sugar. *Crema volteada*, the Peruvian version of flan, was light and lush with a nice drizzle of sugar syrup on top. *Arroz con leche* (aka rice pudding) had a pleasantly rice-y flavor but was a bit too sweet and soupy — until we followed ancient tradition and mixed it with another dessert, *mazamorra morada*. This purple-corn version of Jell-O, studded with apple and pineapple chunks and spiced with cloves, cinnamon, and sweet potato flour, was warm and comforting on its own and got even better when the creamy pudding was stirred in.

There are few vegetarian options on La Furia Chalaca's menu. Appetizers include the *papas a la Huancaina*, fried yucca with *Huancaina* sauce on the side, and appetizer-sized brochettes of organic zucchini, mushrooms, onion, and bell peppers. There are also three salads: a Caesar, a potato-beet, and another of tossed greens and mixed vegetables.

The restaurant's beverage selection is wide-ranging and intriguing. The classic Peruvian cocktail is the Pisco Sour, a fizzy concoction of sugar, egg white, lemon juice, and pisco, a grape brandy that's been distilled and enjoyed since the Spaniards planted vineyards along the Peruvian coast in the 16th century. The house rendition is a potent yet refreshing aperitif with just enough foam to bring out the liqueur's flowery fragrance. Even more venerable is *chicha de jora*, a milky beer made from yellow corn that dates back to the Incas. Flat and cidery with a sour aftertaste, it didn't live up to its reputation. Another time-honored *chicha*, *chicha morada*, cooks up purple corn with pineapple, cloves, sugar, and lime; the result was cool, festive, and refreshing, like a booze-less sangria. (The house sangria, on the other hand, was too sweet for our taste, but our server replaced it with wine at no extra charge.) Then there's the sweet and unexpectedly tasty Inca Kola (what is it — honeydew? verbena? tutti frutti? bubblegum?), a bright yellow soft drink that brought Coke and Pepsi to their corporate knees a few years ago. The wine list features two dozen selections, many of them from the old country. Seldom encountered hereabouts and quite affordable at $18 to $45 per bottle, the wines are worth investigating, particularly the Picasso tempranillo crianza, a nice match for the *seco de cabrito*. Each vintage is available by the glass. Three Peruvian beers, Pilsen, Cristal, and Cusqueña, are offered as well. ●

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com

Ethiopia Restaurant
"The Best Authentic Ethiopian Food"
Vegetarian Lunch Buffet
Monday - Friday for $6.99
More than 700 possible vegetarian combinations
Also Serving
Lamb, Beef, Chicken and Fish
Open 7 Days A Week
2955 Telegraph Ave at Ashby
510.843.1992
EthiopiaRestaurant.com

BREAKFAST PATIO NOW OPEN
Come enjoy the summer [illegible] on our new patio [illegible]
FERRATT'S BREAKFAST SPECIAL
2 Eggs, 2 Bacon, 2 Sausage
Country Potatoes and [illegible]
$4.95
Ferratt's
Tapas & Restaurant
510 [illegible]
834 San Pablo Avenue Albany CA 9470[illegible]
www.ferratts.com

RAINBOW GROCERY
A WORKER-OWNED COOPERATIVE
www.rainbow.coop
It's never too late to plant an organic edible garden
Organic Plant Starts available every day
Prices range from $2.79 to $3.79 (six packs)

1745 Folsom Street • San Francisco, CA 94103

RESTAURANTS & CAFES

This guide only lists restaurants recommended by Express food writers. You can find complete reviews for all of these restaurants at EastBayExpress.com. Our print listings rotate regularly, as space allows. Our complete Dining Guide is available online, where it is searchable by neighborhood, cuisine, price and more. Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts and tip adequately. $—up to $10 per person $$—$10–$25 $$$—$25–$50 $$$$—more than $50.

RICHMOND & NORTH

The Junket 235 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, 510-524-4422. (Deli/Germany/Austrian) $

Huong Thuy 11228 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-232-8088. (Southeast Asian/Thai/Vietnamese) $$

Little Angelo's 5715 Potrero Ave. El Cerrito, 510/232-6979 (Steak House) $$-$$$

Marylou's Homemade Delights 4572 Sycamore Ave. Suite I, Hercules, 510-245-1100 (Dessert) $

Plaza Garibaldi 250 23rd St., Richmond, 510-234-8952 (Mexican/Peruvian) $-$$

Ristorante Don Dino 1590 Fitzgerald Dr., Pinole, 510-223-5820 (Italian) $$

SoWeeThee Thai Restaurant 12200 San Pablo Ave. Richmond, 510-232-5642 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

Taqueria La Mestiza 13549 San Pablo Ave. Richmond, 510-235-2288. (Central American/Mexican/Salvadorian) $

Yuet Fon Seafood Restaurant 10356 San Pablo Ave. El Cerrito, 510-528-8847 (Chinese/Seafood) $-$$

ALBANY, KENSINGTON & BERKELEY-SOLANO

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 1591 Solano Ave. Berkeley, 510-526-8185. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Cactus Taqueria 1881 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-528-1881. (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

Kensington Circus Pub 389 Colusa Ave. Kensington, 510-524-8814. (English/Pub) $$

[illegible] 1830 Solano Ave. Berkeley, 510-526-2518 (Italian/Publichouse) $$

Mito 1707 Solano Ave. Berkeley, 510-524-3677 (Chinese) $$

Lalime's 1329 Gilman St. Albany, 510-527-9838. 510-558-7022 (office) (California Cuisine/French/Mediterranean/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Meal Ticket 1235 San Pablo Ave. Albany, 510-526-6325 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Nizza la Bella 825-827 San Pablo Ave. Albany, 510-526-2552 (French/Italian) $$$

Rendezvous 1110 Solano Ave. Albany, (510) 527-4110 (French) $$

Rivoli 1539 Solano Ave. Berkeley, 510-526-2542 (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

[illegible] 1345 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-2275 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$

Saffron Gourmet 1037 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-528-6782 (Indian/Middle Eastern) $

Sam's Log Cabin 945 San Pablo Ave. Albany, 510-558-0494. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Shik Do Rak 1131 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-526-8083 (Korean) $$

Taqueria Guadalajara 1581 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-558-0665 (Mexican) $

[illegible] 577 San Pablo Ave. Albany, 510-525-7070 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 1853 Solano Ave. Berkeley, 510-525-5950 (Pizza) $-$$

BERKELEY-NORTH

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 1600 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-849-2827 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Cafe Gratitude 1730 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 415-824-4652 (Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $$

Casa Latina 1805 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-558-1177 (Bakery/Mexican) $

[illegible] Mexican Restaurant 1641 Euclid Ave. Berkeley, 510-549-1400 (Mexican) $-$$

César 1515 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-883-0222. (Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$

Grégoire 2109 Cedar St., Berkeley, 510-883-1893 (French/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Guerilla Cafe 1620 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-2233 (Breakfast/Brunch/Organic/Sustainable) $

Imperial Tea Court 1511 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-8888 (Chinese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Top Dog 2503 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-1241 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

BERKELEY-DOWNTOWN

Brazil Fresh Squeeze Cafe 2161 University Ave. Berkeley, 510-845-8011 (Brazilian/Deli/South American) $

Cafe Tibet 2020 University Ave. Berkeley, 510-848-5656 (Tibetan) $-$$

La Burrita 2164 Center St., Berkeley, 510-704-8668 (Mexican) $

[illegible] 1900 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-1432 (Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $

Chick-O-Pea's 1926 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-541-8890 (Middle Eastern) $

Downtown Bar and Restaurant 2102 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-649-3810 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$

G-Z Stop Deli 2234 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-548-9544. (Deli) $

Grab It Go 2105 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-547-3392 (Deli) $

Henry's 2600 Durant Ave. Berkeley, 510-845-8123 (California Cuisine) $$

Herbivore 2451 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-665-1675 (Vegetarian/Vegan) $-$$

International House 2299 Piedmont Ave Berkeley, 510-642-9490 (Eclectic/Organic) $

Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-843-8277 (Brewpub/Pizza) $$

Long Life Vegi House 2129 University Ave Berkeley, 510-845-6072. (Chinese/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] International Sports Cafe 2050 University Ave. Berkeley, 510-705-1150. (American/Brewpub) $$

The Mint Leaf 1513 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-7808 (Indian/Pakistani) $$

La Note 2377 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-843-1535 (Breakfast/Brunch/French) $$-$$$

Oscar's 1890 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 510-849-2384 (American/Burger) $

Pie in the Sky 2274 Oxford St., Berkeley, 510-849-8678 (Pizza) $

Pomegranate 1585 University Ave Berkeley, 510-665-5567 (Italian/Middle Eastern) $$

[illegible] 2086 University Ave Berkeley, 510-883-0667 (Japanese/Sushi) $

Raw Energy 2050 Addison St. Berkeley 510-665-9464 (Dessert/Ice Cream/Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Razan's Organic Kitchen 2119 Kittredge St. Berkeley, 510-486-0449 (Middle Eastern/Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

San Francisco Soup Company 2512 Bancroft Way Berkeley, 510-848-7887 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

[illegible] 2519 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-3898 (Indian/Pakistani) $

Taste of the Himalayas 1700 Shattuck Ave. Suite A, Berkeley 510-849-4963.

Bet We'll Stay Here Longer Than the Oakland Athletics

(The Express has moved.) Our new address is 620 3rd St., Oakland, 94607

The Sunny Side Café
Celebrating 5 Years on Solano!
Voted Best Breakfast/Brunch 2 Years Running!
510 527 5383 • WWW.THESUNNYSIDECAFE.COM
1499 SOLANO AVE ALBANY CA 94706
OUTDOOR SEATING • FREE PARKING BEHIND RESTAURANT

Voted Best Indian in the entire Bay Area
ZAGAT
MICHELIN
Best Indian Restaurant
AJANTA
1888 Solano Ave. Berkeley • 526-4373
Open Daily 11:30am–3pm 5:30pm–9:30pm

Sexy sushi
KAMAKURA
OUR SUSHI CHEFS PREPARE FISH WITH
510-52?-???

OPEN EVERY NIGHT UNTIL 1AM
$5 OFF
PURCHASE OF $20 OR MORE
AFTER 9PM SUN-THURS
BEST BURGER
RUDY'S CAN'T FAIL CAFE
4081 HOLLIS ST. EMERYVILLE 510.594.1221
WWW.RUDYSCANTFAILCAFE.COM

LUNCH AND DINNER SERVED DAILY FROM 11:30AM – 10PM
Tiki Tom's
IN OAKLAND
HAPPY HOUR 4pm-6pm
$2 Bud Draft
$4 Mai Tai
$1.95 Appetizers
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL 3-6 pm Mon-Fri
4 Course Meal only $9.25!!
300 29TH AVE. OAKLAND 510.532.9282
(AT THE FOOT OF THE PARK STREET BRIDGE)
WWW.TIKITOMS300.COM

Chick Pea's
Organic Falafel Organic Pita and
Gourmet Falafel Salad Bar
5 Varieties of Signature French Fries
100% VEGETARIAN
FREE ORDER of Any Signature French Fries
with purchase of Falafel Offer Valid with Coupon Exp res 4/30
1926 Shattuck Ave Berkeley | 510-540-8880 | Now Open

RECENTLY REVIEWED

The Mayflower

2036 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley 510-883-[illegible] $$. Almost every dish at this place is packed with so much protein that you're primed to pop up from your chair and blast from here to San Leandro. It's that good, and yes, it's a hole-in-the-wall. It's about to be your favorite hole-in-the-wall, because dim sum is served here all day every day — and because its menu sports 199 separate items denoting a whirlwind tour of regional and culinary styles, from rock-and-clay pot to spinach with duck eggs to shrimp in lobster sauce to happy family tofu to dried-fish-and-peanut junk. And that's not counting the 42 lunch specials, which include pork tendons in ginger broth, seaweed salad (as an entrée!), and lemongrass pork chop. And that's not counting a separate 57-item vegetarian menu, of which we the meatless need read only as far as faux-chicken drumsticks and faux-chicken watermelon soup before swooning dead away. And that's not counting daily specials. Or desserts. $

Bellanico

4238 Park Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-1180. This Glenview neighborhood hangout prepares and serves mostly exemplary and always inventive Italian dishes in a warm and convivial setting. Begin your meal with the startlingly good gorgonzola panna cotta or a platter of casarecce, Sicilian pasta with sweet onions, dandelion greens and milk-braised goat. The grilled pork chop with cherries and pickled rhubarb is a marvelous entrée, and don't miss the tangy chevre cheesecake or the luscious chocolate-date pudding for dessert. Unusual and impressive (primarily Italian) wine list. $$$

Azerbaijan Restaurant

2111 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-4778. Owner Hamid Duran, who also owns Aleem around the block, hails from Tabriz, the capital of Iran's East Azerbaijan Province. Azeri dishes look, feel, and largely even taste Persian, but tweaked. [illegible] nuts, chick peas, tomatoes, potatoes, saffron, fried onions, and fresh and dried fruit. For instance, the fesenjoon, the pomegranate-walnut stew that is the Caucasian answer to mole sauce, is a little sweeter and smoother here than in typical Persian restaurants. Azerbaijan reveres rice, as this place proves. Choose baghali polo, with melt-in-your-mouth baby lima beans and lots of dill. Or zereshk polo with saffron and sweet-sharp red barberries. Or, best of all, tears-in-your-eyes shirin polo with saffron, raisins, preserved orange peel, pistachios, and almonds. $$

Zen

2315 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-521-7070. Zen's eclectic house cuisine encompasses Chinese, Hawaiian, Korean, Italian, and Japanese cooking traditions with unfocused brio and mixed success. The spaghetti with enoki mushrooms and fish roe and the kimchi-flavored fried rice are tasty examples of comfort food, and the vermicelli with roast duck and mango is a sweet and savory treat, but the chicken-gizzard yakitori and the panko-crusted fish and chips are best avoided. Desserts are on the hotel-banquet level, but the mango sorbet is a nice tangy meal-closer. Impressive array of sojus and sake cocktails; handsome low-key red-and-black ambiance. $$

Chick-O-Pea's

1926 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-540-8880. Falafel are universally street food, but you wouldn't want to wolf a Chick-O-Pea's falafel while striding down the street, because you owe it more than that, because each bite boasts juicy-chewy-crunchy-but, then yields smoky slow sophisticated spice charge on the double-take. Packed into a thick soft house-baked pocket, it's not really street food but the sort of hybrid that could be conceived only in Berkeley: sit-down street food. Worth the trip to this 100-percent vegetarian eatery is Chick-O-Pea's falafel/salad bar, where nine or more exotic, house-made Lebanese-style toppings can be ladled or plattered into falafels, into falafel burgers, and atop organic baby greens. Shoestring fries come in five flavors, but the pita fries — fried strips of leftover bread — are a guilty pleasure that goes well with a serving of couscous, hummus, or baba ghanoush. $

Barlata

4901 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-450-0678. This friendly bustling Temescal hangout has the relaxed vibe of a Barcelona cafe, and chef-owner Daniel Olivella's three dozen tapas keep things authentically Iberian: a lusty Spanish omelet ribboned with chorizo, lamb meatballs with an earthy chocolate-tomato sauce, three different gazpachos in fluted glasses, slow-cooked octopus served in a glittering sardine can. The perfunctory seafood paella is worth skipping, but the desserts — particularly the grilled chocolate brioche sandwich with crema catalana — are delectable. Affordable and eclectic all-Spanish wine list. $$$

841-8280 (Indian/Vegetarian/Vegan) $$
[illegible] 1630 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-524-1405 (Japanese/Sushi) $$
IKEA 4400 Shellmound St., Emeryville, 510-420-4532 (Scandinavian) $
[illegible] Chaat and Sweets 1024 University Ave., Berkeley 510-704-1290 (Indian/Pakistani) $
Jimmy Bean's 1290 Gilman St., Berkeley, 510-528-3435 (Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$
Juan's Place 941 Carleton St., Berkeley, 510-845-6904 (Mexican) $-$$
Kabana 1106 University Ave., Berkeley 510-845-3355 (Indian/Pakistani/Kosher Halal) $
KC's Bar-B-Que 2613 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-548-1160 (Barbecue) $-$$
Lois the Pie Queen 851 60th St., Emeryville, 510-658-5616 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$
[illegible] Restaurante 2700 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-848-4770 (Mexican/Salvadoran) $
O Chamé 1830 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-841-8783 (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine/Japanese/Organic) $$$
Picante 1328 Sixth St., Berkeley, 510-525-3121 (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $
Rudy's Can't Fail Cafe 4081 Hollis St., Emeryville, 510-594-1221 (American/Diner) $-$$
[illegible]'s 3031 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville, 510-547-8730 (Southern/Soul Food) $$
Sea Breeze Market and Deli 598 University Ave., Berkeley 510-486-8802 (Deli/Seafood) $
Skates on the Bay 100 Seawall Dr. (at Berkeley Marina), Berkeley 510-549-1900 (American/Seafood) $$
[illegible] 2129 Ninth St., Berkeley, 510-204-9087 (Vegetarian/Vegan) $
Townhouse Bar & Grill 5862 Doyle St., Emeryville 510-652-6151 (California Cuisine) $$-$$$
Vik's 726 Allston Way, Berkeley 510-644-4412 (Indian/Pakistani/Tapas/Small Plates) $

R&C

[illegible] Pakistani) $$
Thai Delight Cuisine 1700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-549-0611 (Organic/Sustainable/Southeast Asian/Thai/Vegan) $$
Top Dog 2160 Center St., Berkeley, 510-849-0176 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $
Turkish Kitchen 1986 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-549-1007 (Middle Eastern) $$
Udupi Palace 1901 University Ave., Berkeley 510-843-6600 (Indian/Pakistani/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
Zabu Zabu 1919 Addison St. #102, Berkeley, 510-848-9228 (Japanese/Sushi) $$
Zaytoon 1981 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-1981 (California Cuisine/Greek/Persian/Middle Eastern/Organic/Sustainable/Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$

BERKELEY WEST & EMERYVILLE

Cafe Nom 2793 Seventh St. #100, Berkeley 510-204-9602 (Hawaii) $
Caffe Venezia 1799 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-4681 (Italian) $$$
High Bistro 1153 Dwight Way, Berkeley 510-548-2322 (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$
Eccolo 1820 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-644-0444 (California Cuisine/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$
[illegible] 1722 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-9500 (Japanese/Sushi) $$
Fellini 1401 University Ave., Berkeley, (510)

BERKELEY-SOUTH

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market (Derby St. at

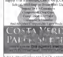
Messob
Ethiopian Restaurant
Voted
"BEST AFRICAN RESTAURANT"
2008 Editors' Pick East Bay Express
Open Daily from 11am-10pm
OUTDOOR PATIO
510.428.1122
4301 Piedmont Ave. Oakland
www.messob.org

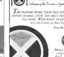
CLAREMONT DINER
Maximum Value $8
2 for 1
ENJOY ONE COMPLIMENTARY ENTREE WHEN A SECOND ENTREE OF EQUAL OR GREATER VALUE IS PURCHASED
Coupon good for [illegible]
Valid 7 days [illegible]
Not Valid on Daily Specials and Holidays
6200 CLAREMONT AVE.
OAKLAND 655 5455

THE TERRACE ROOM
AT THE LAKE MERRITT HOTEL
NOW SERVING
LUNCH BRUNCH & DINNER
LUNCH 11AM 2PM
WEEKEND BRUNCH 9AM 2PM
DINNER 5PM 8PM
Happy Hour!!
4pm 6pm
Reservations (510)903-3771
1800 Madison Street
Oakland CA 94612
$5.00
Toward the purchase of $25 or more

tây hồ
Try our Signature Dish
STEAM RICE FLOUR CREPE
Dinner for 2 $25
Eat In, Take Out, Catering Available
344 12th Street in Oakland 510-836-[illegible]
Lunch $5.95

Bistro 1491
Kids eat for FREE In July*
1491 Solano Ave
Albany
510.526.1491
Bistro1491.com
[illegible]


SAVE MONEY AND GO GREEN!
Supply Your Restaurant, Coffee Shop, Church, School, Wedding, or Event With Our
[illegible] Containers
Compostable Clear Cups
Compostable Hot Cups
Compostable Utensils
And All Other Compostable Paper Products
COSTA VERDE PAPER SUPPLY
[illegible]
FREE DELIVERY ON ALL ORDERS
PHONE [illegible]


SWEET FINGERS
Delivering the Finest in Jamaican Food
THE FLAVORS WORK THEIR WAY INTO EVERY SAVORY MORSEL UNTIL THE MEAT FALLS FROM THE BONE. WHO KNEW ISLAND LIVING WAS AS CLOSE AS SAN LEANDRO?
EAST BAY EXPRESS
Sweet Fingers
[illegible]
464 [illegible] St
San Leandro CA
510.553.9869

What's Happening Tonight?
Find out.
EastBayExpress.com
m.EastbayExpress.com

WINEAU

Big Reds Down Under

Six Shirazes and Shiraz blends from Australia offer something to suit every palate

For many Wineaux, mass-market Australian Shiraz played a key role in our earliest attempts at wine-related sophistication. I can still picture the $5.00 bottle I brought proudly to a friend's dinner party in the mid 1990s. Later, as I learned to enjoy more subtle wines, my impression of that old Shiraz standby devolved from "impressive" to "merely mediocre," eventually winding up somewhere around "undrinkable." The varietal itself became a casualty of that one brand's sub-par quality, and I started leaving Shiraz on the shelf.

Now I know that certain Australian Shirazes are considered among the finest red wines in the world (witness recent vintages from Penfolds fetching about $2,500 a case) and that high-end brands often have a budget offering well worth a try.

This week, instead of looking at the low end of those luxury labels, we tasted six offerings from lesser-known wineries. The most expensive wine underwhelmed me, but Token Winemaker leapt to its defense. To me the **2008 Wagtail Shiraz ($13.99)** had a rather flat aroma with just a hint of lemminess to it, and while full-bodied and nicely balanced, its strong vegetal quality was too much of a distraction.

More pleasing in both price and flavor profile was the **2008 Kilda Shiraz ($7)** from South Eastern Australia. This one was classically Shiraz on the nose, with what Token Winemaker identified as a dominant meaty scent. Medium-bodied with a slight sweetness, this pleasant wine was milder than the aroma hinted it would be. I'd recommend a glass without food.

Also falling into the "enjoy it without food" category was the **2006 Snake Charmer Shiraz ($12.99)** from Australia's Limestone Coast. Spice was the theme here. I smelled cinnamon, clove, menthol, and vanilla and tasted plums and cherries in this off-dry, mellow wine. "Refreshing" isn't a word I often use to describe red wine, especially such a classically full-bodied varietal, but that's what came to mind after a few sips.

I recognized **Silverwing** for a Pinot Noir I once praised, and this week we tried its **2005 Shiraz ($9.99)** and **2005 Shiraz Grenache ($9.99)**. They were certainly distinctive, with the Shiraz presenting itself as a bulldozer of a wine with plum, raisin, and plenty of spice in the aroma and on the palate. Token Winemaker said it tasted old beyond its years. Grenache makes everything subtler, and sure enough its addition made for a more mellow, food-friendly, off-dry wine full of berry and plum that might be nice with a non-spicy pasta dish.

Finally, ranking last despite its promising mix of varietals was the **2006 Ironberry Cabernet-Shiraz-Merlot ($7.99)** from Western Australia. "Welcome to the farm!" cried a bouquet full of must, hay, and other barnyard classics. The juicy cherry tartness was far from redemptive.

Blair Campbell

FoodBack@EastBayExpress.com

Martin Luther King Jr. Way), Berkeley. 510-548-3333. (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Gourmet of India 2448 Sacramento St., Berkeley. 510-848-7684. (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

[illegible] Indian [illegible] 2449 Sacramento St., Berkeley. 510-841-[illegible]. (Indian/Pakistani) $

[illegible] Restaurant 2556 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-[illegible]. (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Paragon Bar & Café (B Tunnel Rd., Claremont Resort and Spa), Berkeley. 510-549-8585. (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Rick & Ann's Restaurant and [illegible] 2922 Domingo Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-8538. (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $$

Smokehouse 3115 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-3640. (American) $

Sweet Adeline Bakeshop 3350 Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-595-7301. (Bakery/Café/Coffeehouse) $-$$

Top Dog 2534 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-5967. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

[illegible] 1532 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-8806. (Asian Fusion/Chinese/Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $$

[illegible] Café 2250 [illegible] St., Berkeley. 510-595-9800. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $-$$

[illegible] 1910 [illegible] St., Berkeley. 510-848-3459. (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $

OAKLAND-ROCKRIDGE

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 5819 College Ave., Oakland. 510-601-0444. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Cactus Oakland, 5642 College Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

Citron 5484 College Ave., Oakland. 510-653-5484. (Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine/French) $$$-$$$$

[illegible] Pizza 5316 College Ave., Oakland. 510-658-2100. (Italian/Pizza) $$

[illegible] 5200 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-652-6858. (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Noodle Theory 6099 Claremont Ave., Oakland. 510-595-6988. (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine) $-$$

Top Dog 5100 Broadway ([illegible]), Oakland. 510-601-1182. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

Uzen 5415 College Ave., Oakland. 510-654-7753. (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 5801 College Ave., Oakland. 510-655-6385. (Pizza) $-$$

OAKLAND-TEMESCAL

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Sunday Temescal Farmers Market, Oakland. 415-412-4411. (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] Sushi 5030 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-594-0484. (Japanese/Sushi) $$$

Koryo Wooden Charcoal Barbecue 4390 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-652-8007. (Korean) $$

La Calaca Loca 5199 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-601-8258. (Mexican) $

Barlata 4901 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-450-0678. (Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $-$$

The [illegible] 4320 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-655-5800. (California Cuisine) $$

[illegible] Café 5600 Shattuck Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-5344. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $

Pizzaiolo 5008 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-652-4888. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Pizza) $$-$$$

Pyong Chang Tofu House 4701 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-658-9040. (Korean/Southeast Asian) $$

[illegible] Seafood 4923 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-654-5824. (Seafood/Southern/Soul Food) $

[illegible] Barbeque House 2000 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-834-5757. (Korean) $-$$

Sweetie Pie & Poppy's Seafood & Southern Cuisine 5319 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 53rd St.), Oakland. 510-547-0348. (Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

[illegible] 4905 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-653-8000. (Moroccan/Spanish) $$$

Full Reviews Online

About 500 reviews searchable by food, region, and price

at EastBayExpress.com

or m.EastBayExpress.com

OAKLAND-PIEDMONT, GRAND LAKE & EAST

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Saturday Grand Lake Farmers Market, Oakland. 415-412-5101. (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Barney's Piedmont Hamburgers 4162 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-7180. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

[illegible] 3411 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland. 510-663-2500. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

[illegible] Sushi 3190 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-465-7854. (Japanese/Sushi) $$

[illegible] Sport Bar & Grill 3411 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-268-1848. (Greek/Pizza) $$

[illegible] 542 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-451-8580. (American) $$-$$$

[illegible] 3255 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland. 510-451-1136. (California Cuisine/Pizza) $$

[illegible] 3814 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-1414. (Caribbean) $$

Zza's Trattoria 552 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-839-9124. (Italian/Pizza) $$

OAKLAND-DOWNTOWN & JACK LONDON SQ.

B Restaurant 499 9th St., Oakland. 510-251-8770. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

[illegible] of India 946 Clay St., Oakland. 510-834-7684. (Indian/Pakistani) $-$$

[illegible] 301 8th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. (Chinese/Seafood) $$

Le Cheval 1007 Clay St., Oakland. 510-763-8495. (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $$-$$$

[illegible] Café 337 8th St., Oakland. 510-893-8223. (Chinese) $

Everett & Jones Barbeque 126 Broadway, Oakland. 510-663-2350. (Barbecue) $$

Flora 1900 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-286-0100. (California Cuisine) $$-$$$

Golden Lotus 1301 Franklin St., Oakland. 510-893-0383. (Chinese/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan/Vietnamese) $

[illegible] 388 9th St. (Pacific Renaissance Plaza, 1st Floor), Oakland. 510-268-1288. (Chinese) $

[illegible] 381 15th St., Oakland. 510-832-5258. (Vietnamese) $$

[illegible] 800 Broadway, Oakland. 510-839-1288. (Chinese) $$

[illegible] 2430 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-832-1600. (Korean) $$

Legendary Palace 708 Franklin St., Oakland. 510-663-9188. (Chinese) $-$$

[illegible] 817 Washington St., Oakland. 510-835-5585. (California Cuisine) $$$

Miss Pearl's Jam House One Broadway, Oakland. 510-444-7171. (Caribbean) $$$

Mua 2442 Webster St., Oakland. 510-238-1100. (American/Asian Fusion/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$

[illegible] 155 3rd St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-1350. (Southern/Soul Food) $$

Oyster Reef 1000 Embarcadero Ave., Oakland. 510-836-1559. (Seafood) $$$

Ozumo Oakland 2251 Broadway Ave., Oakland. 510-286-9866. (Asian Fusion/Japanese/Sushi/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$$

Picán 2295 Broadway, Oakland. 510-834-1000. (American/Barbecue/Cajun/Creole/California Cuisine/Southern/Soul Food) $$$$

Restaurant Peony 388 9th St., Suite 288, Oakland. 510-286-8866. (Chinese) $$$

[illegible] Diner 400 15th St., Oakland. 510-444-8424. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner/Vegetarian/Vegan) $$

San Francisco Soup Company 1300 Clay St., Oakland. 510-763-7687. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

[illegible] 328 10th St., Oakland. 510-839-2288. (Chinese) $-$$

Shanghai Restaurant 930 Webster St., Oakland. 510-465-6878. (Chinese) $-$$

[illegible] 2501 Broadway, Oakland. 510-[illegible]. (Ethiopian/Eritrean) $$

Spice Monkey 1628 Webster St., Oakland. 510-625-8100. (California Cuisine) $$

[illegible] 387 8th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. (Chinese) $

Tamarindo Antojeria Mexicana 468 3rd St., Oakland. 510-444-1944. (Mexican/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$

Tay Ho 344 12th St., Oakland. 510-836-6388. (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $

Top Dog 499 14th St., Suite 11, Oakland. 510-[illegible]. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

Vo's Restaurant 59 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. (Vietnamese) $$

Yung Kee Restaurant 888 Webster St., Oakland. 510-839-2015. (Chinese) $

ALAMEDA

[illegible] 1544 Webster St., Alameda. 510-523-2231. (Italian) $$$

[illegible] 2115 [illegible] Ave., Alameda. 510-769-9933. (Diner) $

Dragon Rouge 2304 Encinal Ave., Alameda. 510-521-[illegible]. (Vietnamese) $-$$

The [illegible] 1313 Park St., Alameda. 510-769-[illegible]. (Tapas/Small Plates) $

[illegible] Table 2315-A Encinal Ave., Alameda. 510-521-6915. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $-$$

The New Zealander 1420 Webster St., Alameda. 510-769-8555. (Breakfast/English/Irish/New Zealander/Organic/Sustainable) $

Ole's Waffle Shop 1507 Park St., Alameda. 510-522-8108. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $

Otaez Restaurant 1619 Webster St., Alameda. 510-521-9090. (Mexican) $

Pappo 2320 Central Ave., Alameda. 510-337-9100. (California Cuisine) $$$

OAKLAND EAST

La Estrellita Café 446 East 12th St., Oakland. 510-465-7188. (American/Mexican) $$

[illegible] 831 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-465-8836. (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $$$

Nieves Cinco de Mayo 3340 #2 E. 12th St. (in the Fruitvale Public Market), Oakland. 510-533-8281. (Dessert/Ice Cream) $

[illegible] 2238 [illegible] St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-4807. (Breakfast/Brunch) $

El Ojo de Agua 3132 E. 12th St., Oakland. (Mexican) $

[illegible] Village 3037 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-8770. (Southeast Asian/Thai/Cambodian) $$

Otaez Mexicatessen 3872 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-536-0008. (Mexican) $$

Pho Hoa Hiep 2211 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-434-9188. (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $-$$

Pho Hoa Lao 720 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-451-8880. (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $

Tacos El Sol Corner of International Blvd. and High St., Oakland, no phone. (Mexican) $

Taqueria [illegible] 2526 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-535-1200. (Mexican) $

Taqueria [illegible] 4345 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-261-8125. (Mexican) $

[illegible] 3112 20th Ave., Oakland. 510-532-8212. (Hawaiian) $$

[illegible] 3415 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-532-1105. (Mexican) $$

HAYWARD & SAN LEANDRO

L&L Hawaiian Barbecue 27320 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward. 510-783-8680. (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $$

[illegible] 20500-E [illegible] Blvd., Hayward. 510-670-8127. (Filipino/Southeast Asian) $$

[illegible] Restaurant [illegible], Hayward. 510-583-9444. (California Cuisine/Seafood) $$$

Pot Pie Paradise 3323 [illegible] Rd., [illegible]. 510-[illegible]-4904. (American) $$

Sweet Tropical Jamaican Restaurant 484 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-533-8400. (Caribbean) $$

Thai Satay 1370 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-352-2845. (Southeast Asian/Thai/

THERE IS A WINERY IN ALAMEDA

Rosenblum Cellars

Mention this ad for a 2 for 1 Reserve Tasting

RosenblumCellars.com
2900 Main St, Suite 1100
Alameda, CA 94501
510.995.4100
Enjoy Our Wines Responsibly
© [illegible] Rosenblum Cellars, Alameda, CA

Voted Best Local Winery 2008

Winner '08

Open Daily 11-6

R&C

[illegible] $$$

Union Union 1427 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-352-9848. (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

Val's Burgers 1115 Kelly St., Hayward, 510-888-8234. (American, Diner) $

FREMONT, NEWARK & UNION CITY

Cafe Dyfodlo 46607 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont, 510-668-0999. (Turkey) $$-$$$

Chaat Cafe 3954 Mowry Ave., Fremont, 510-795-3400. (Indian/Pakistani/Tapas/Small Plates) $-$$

Farmers 31320 Farmers Plaza Rd., Union City, 510-471-0051. (Indian/Pakistani) $-$$

De Afghanan Union Union 37486 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, 510-745-9599. (Afghan/Middle Eastern) $-$$

Walnut Restaurant 3908 Washington Blvd., Fremont, 510-659-9800. (Kosher/Halal/Middle Eastern) $-$$

L&L Barbecue Barbecue 1065 Walnut Rd. (in the Union City Marketplace), Union City, (510) 314-0658. (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $

Woodlands 39263 Cedar Blvd., Newark, 510-794-5721. (Indian/Pakistani) $

PLEASANT HILL, CONCORD & EAST

Chola's 4315G Clayton Rd., Concord, 925-680-7788. (Peruvian/South American) $-$$

Chicken Maker 1800 Monument Blvd., Concord, 925-689-5488. (Afghan/Persian) $

El Paso Brewing Company and Barbecue 1154 Salvio St., Suite L, Concord, 925-691-4253. (American/Brewpub) $-$$

L&L Hawaiian Barbecue 800 Crescent Dr., Farmers Fdk, (510) 690-3158. (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $

L&L Barbecue Barbecue 5411 Lone Tree Way #130, Highlands, 925-754-0388. (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $

La Farmers 2151 Salvio St., Ste. (in Salvio Pacheco Sq.), Concord, 925-521-9010. (Italian) $$-$$$

Lou's Asia Union 2580-A Sand Creek Rd., Brentwood, 925-516-1100. (Asian Fusion/Chinese/Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Luna Mariscos 2118 Willow Pass Rd., 200-B, Concord, 925-681-4080. (Italian) $$-$$$

Walnut Walnut Barbecue 2118 Union Buena St., Concord, 925-691-8770. (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Chiefton Eatery & Wine Bar 1922 Oak Park Blvd., Farmers Hill, 925-944-0430. (Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $$-$$$

WALNUT CREEK

Barbecue: Chiefton Tuft & Restaurant 1415 Union Ave., Walnut Creek, 925-930-0776. (Eastern European) $-$$

Big Crosby's 1541 Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek, 925-938-2894. (American/Steak House) $$$$

La Union 1000 N. Plaza St., Walnut Creek, 925-401-4400. (French/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Walnut of India 1358 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-256-2424. (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Dragon 2000 1658 Botelho St., Walnut Creek, 925-818-1668. (Chinese) $-$$

Dragon's Giant Hamburger 1490 Walnut Ave., Walnut Creek, 925-939-4888. (Diner) $

Modest 1515 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek, 925-939-4555. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Rogan 1552 Locust St., Walnut Creek, 925-932-8096. (Vietnamese) $$

LAMORINDA

Modest Cafe 2 Theater Sq., Suite 155, Orinda, 925-254-5290. (Greek/Turkish/Middle Eastern) $

Be a Hawaiian 3422 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-283-7133. (Barbecue/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Chow 53 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, 925-962-2469. (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

El Jarro Union Suite 3580 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-283-0639. (Mexican) $-$$

La Farmers Walnut 101 Lafayette Circle, Suite 101, Lafayette, 925-284-5280. (Italian) $$-$$$

Nelson's Restaurant 1 Union Way, Suite 3, Orinda, 925-253-0652. (Chinese) $

Plaza Antica 3600 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-299-0986. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Pizza) $$-$$$

Vino 3531 Plaza Way, Lafayette, 925-284-1330. (Italian/Spanish/Tapas) $$

TRI-VALLEY

Bruce's Union & Bran 1922 Main St., Sunol, 925-862-0801. (American/Steak House) $$-$$$

Los Caporales 2130 First St., Livermore, 925-443-4454. (Mexican) $

Lawrence & Modest Union Meat Co. 2256 Alamo Plaza, Alamo, 925-838-0506. (Barbecue/Deli) $

Modest Walnut Paulos 495 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville, 925-362-4958. (Indian/Pakistani) $$

McNamara's Steak & Chop House 7430 San Ramon Rd., Dublin, 925-833-0995. (American/Seafood/Steak House) $$$

The Bridges & Bar Pear 265 Hartz Ave., Danville, 925-820-0611. (California Cuisine) $$-$$$

Sakura 3151 Crow Canyon Pl., #C, San Ramon, 925-277-1809. (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Yogurts & Modest 250 Main Pl., San Ramon, 925-328-0119. (Mexican) $

Wente Vineyards Restaurant 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925-456-2450. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$$

Walnut 3496 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, 925-964-1616. (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 3110 Crow Canyon Pl., Suite D, San Ramon, 925-244-1222. (Pizza) $-$$ ●

FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Chiefton Chocolate Factory Tour Berkeley, only a shift chocolates in production, Chiefton [illegible]. Wednesdays, Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Free. Walnut Chocolate Factory Store and Chocolate 5 [illegible] 6578 Hollis St., Emeryville, 510-653-4400. CharlesChocolates.com.

Union Berkeley Walnut Spoon Frozen Yogurt Donating 100% of net proceeds from the evening July 9 to the 2009 Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. Thu., July 9, 7-11 p.m. $5. Golden Spoon Frozen Yogurt, 4860 East Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley.

Berkeley Berger Chocolate Maker Factory Tours Docent-led tours provide samplings and a history of chocolate. Call 510-981-4066 to make reservations. Daily. Free. Scharffen Berger, 914 Heinz Ave., Emeryville. ScharffenBerger.com.

Wine Wednesdays Complimentary wine tasting and wine by the glass for only $5. Second Wednesday of every month, 5-8 p.m. Periscope Cellars & Gallery, 1410 62nd St. (Ste. 1), Emeryville, 510-655-1001. PeriscopeCellars.com.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market For info, visit PCFMA.com. Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Webster St. at Taylor Ave., Alameda, 510-747-7400.

Bayfair Walnut Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-351-8998. ShopBayfair.com.

Concord Farmers' Market Thursdays, 4-8 p.m., Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Todos Santos Plaza, Willow Pass Rd. and Grant St., Concord, 925-510-3484.

Dublin Farmers' Dublin Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Farmers St. at Prospect St., Dublin.

Farm Fresh Market Community Stand Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m. 510-848-1704, EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albrier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St. (at Oregon St.), Berkeley, 510-981-5450. CityofBerkeley.info/francesalbrier.

Irvington Farmers' Market Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bay St. at Fremont Blvd., Fremont.

Union Permanente Farmers Farmers' Market Located in the courtyard behind the main hospital. Thursdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Union Farmers, 39400 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont.

Union Permanente Berkeley Farmers' Market At the main entrance to the hospital. Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Berkeley, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Farmers.

Union Permanente Farmers Farmers Market Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Union Farmers, 3801 Howe St., Oakland.

Union Permanente Union City Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Union Medical Center Union City, 2500 Whipple Rd., Union City.

Union Permanente Walnut Union Farmers' Market On the cafeteria patio. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Walnut Creek, 1425 South Main St., Walnut Creek.

Kensington Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. ACE Hardware Parking Lot, 355 Arlington Ave., Berkeley.

Walnut Market Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Laurel Walnut Laurel, Walnut, Oakland, 510-507-1285.

Livermore Thursday Farmers' Market Thursdays, 4-8 p.m. Carnegie Park, 3rd & J Sts., Livermore.

West Berkeley Farmers' Market Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave., at Rose St., Berkeley.

Rockwood Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Farmers on Fairmont Market, Alvin Angelo Dr. (at First St.), Richmond.

Pablo Richmond Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m. Park Pl. (at Washington Ave.), Richmond.

San Leandro Downtown Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m. Parrott St., between E. 14th St. & Washington Ave., San Leandro.

San Leandro Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bancroft Blvd. at Pelton Center, San Leandro.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. MLK Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-981-6700.

Temescal Farmers' Market Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

Berkeley Berkeley Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m., 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Derby St. (at Martin Luther King Jr. Way), Berkeley.

Union City Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Old Alvarado/Union Square Park, Smith & Market Sts., Union City ●

PICK

Breads and Tortillas: Delicious Traditions

Learn to make tortillas the old fashioned way at **Peralta Hacienda Historical Park** (2465 34th Ave., Oakland) on Saturday, July 11, where **"Breads and Tortillas: Delicious Traditions"** features tortilla-making lessons over an open fire. Other free treats on offer include fresh hot fry bread, Mexican pastries, and that Gold Rush favorite, hoecake. 2 p.m., $5. Reservations: 510-532-9142 — *Anneli Rufus*

Now serving French Press!
SONOMA coffee cafe
Try our French Connection:
One pot French Press coffee plus 2 croissant breakfast sandwiches. Oh! la la!
Mon-Fri 7a-11p Sat & Sun 9a-6p
Located at 2131 Durant Ave. in Berkeley (at corner of Fulton)
510-665-1440

Nieves Cinco De Mayo
ICE CREAM, SORBETS & SNOW CONES
WE HAVE OVER 24 FLAVORS TO CHOOSE FROM
11am - 9pm
3340 E. 12TH STREET
510-533-6296

WHO COMES TO THE OAKLAND GRILL?
BRUNCH SAT & SUN / CHAMPAGNE $1.95
Oakland Grill
301 FRANKLIN ST. OAKLAND 510.835.1176
"OAKLAND GRILL NAMED TOP 100 RESTAURANT IN THE U.S."

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND BRUNCH AT LAKESHORE CAFE
LAKESHORE CAFE
-Breakfast -Gourmet Sandwiches & Salads
-Great Atmosphere -Beautiful Patio Dining
-Brunch Saturday & Sunday -Catering
3257 LAKESHORE
OAKLAND 510.832.4374
WWW.LAKESHORECAFE.NET
Nominated for Best Brunch in the East Bay by KRON 4

KING TSIN
$5.95 Lunch Special
Extensive Selection of Fresh Dim Sum and Dumplings
Full Bar
Large Wine and Beer Selection
1699 Solano Ave • Berkeley
510-525-9890

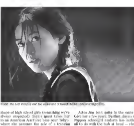
yogurt harmony
ONE FREE TOPPING
W/ PURCHASE OF ANY SIZE FROZEN YOGURT

Get the Express Delivered to You Weekly
EastBayExpress.com/Newsletters

DUCK, YOU SUCKERS!

Blood: The Last Vampire is violently indecisive. *The Country Teacher* has the small-town jitters.

By Kelly Vance


Blood: The Last Vampire isn't too unlike one of Takashi Miike's demonic fright films.

From the advertising poster art of *Blood: The Last Vampire*, with its anime-style uniformed Japanese schoolgirl poised to strike with a raised samurai sword, we might expect a hard-R erotic teen sort of a vampire-meets-nymphet thing. Or perhaps even a reimagining of one of those salacious Nikkatsu Studios exploitationers from the 1960s and 1970s with nubile teenyboppers dealing death to dirty old evildoers.

When the film finally spreads its Tarantino-ish wings, however, it's clear that producer Bill Kong (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*) and martial arts helmer Chris Nahon's live-action remake of the 48-minute Japanese anime of the same title (2000) should have lingered in the development stage awhile longer. Or better yet, that it should have had the courage of its leering convictions.

Blood begs us to be swept up in the tale of the time-traveling, gender-shifting reincarnation of a 16th century samurai demon hunter named Kiyomasa. According to the opening scroll, Kiyomasa fought in the Onin War, when Japan was plagued not only by human aggression but by a scourge of demons. In the tradition of monster movies everywhere, the demon killer's work is never done because the creatures never really die. Neither does Kiyomasa, newly reborn as Saya (Gianna Jun), a sixteen-year-old beauty in the year 1970. Saya's mission: search out and destroy a flying, blood-sucking menace called Onigen (played by Japanese actor Koyuki), "the oldest, vilest demon of them all."

Because demons are fond of taking the shape of high school girls (something we've always suspected), Saya's quest takes her to an American Air Force base near Tokyo, where she assumes the role of a transfer student and meets classmate Alice (Allison Miller), the general's daughter. Never mind the useless "CIA" subplot involving Alice's father and a couple of guys in shades. *Blood* is all about girls getting together and slaughtering other girls.

Saya, with a little help from Alice, rids the world of vampires amid much CGI and a few thoughtfully staged fights. The *Crouching Tiger* impulse is strong and might have been encouraged, but the story (by Kenji Kamiyama and Katsuya Terada, who created the original characters, and Chris Chow, who adapted the screenplay) is dismayingly Japanese, so we get a Chinese-looking action fantasy set in the shadow of Mt. Fuji. Quentin Tarantino had a similar problem with *Kill Bill: Vol. 1*, with its ultra-Japanese Sonny Chiba sword sequence and the Lady Snowblood duel centerpiece. He solved that by using Uma Thurman as the ultimate cross-cultural sexy she-devil. That bright yellow track suit obliterated all resistance.

Actor Jun isn't quite in the same class. Give her a few years. Further, Saya's classic Nippon schoolgirl uniform has nothing at all to do with the task at hand — she's the only student in the school wearing one. It's enough to make us suspect that the entire movie was built around the poster art, just like Roger Corman did in the 1950s.

The dialogue is horrible (sample exchange: "Little bitch is out of control." "Saya is all we've got"), the acting is worse, but once we boil all this down and discard unnecessary plot elements, it's really not that different from one of Takashi Miike's demonic fright films, particularly in the action scenes. Kato's autumn leaves sword battle is one of the rare high points.

Otherwise the "Japanese"-ness is negligible. Actor Jun is Korean, the film was shot on location in China and Argentina, and alongside the haphazard presence of the US Air Force and the CIA, the Hong Kong-France-Japan-Argentina production adopts an American adolescent's view of the world. To paraphrase the Firesign Theatre, how can you be everywhere at once when you're nowhere at all?

Blood: The Last Vampire

Directed by Chris Nahon. With Gianna Jun, Allison Miller, and Koyuki. Opens Friday.

The Country Teacher

Written and directed by Bohdan Sláma. With Pavel Liska and Zuzana Bydzovská. Opens Friday.

From the "Japan" of *Blood: The Last Vampire* it's a long way in every sense of the word to the peaceful corner of Europe where a gay man is having trouble adjusting to his new job as *The Country Teacher*. Petr is everything a certain faux homme character named Bruno is not: quiet, bespectacled, dressed in ordinary clothes, and reserved, with an air of sadness about him, as if he's carrying an invisible weight.

We learn that Petr (played by Pavel Liska), a high-school science teacher, was assigned to the sleepy Czech village as a form of exile from Prague because of complaints of impropriety between him and one of his students. Hence his shyness. The small town is the end of the line for him — one more incident and he's fired. Petr happens to be a wonderful teacher with the ability to bring out the best in his students. One of them in particular draws his interest, a rebellious and hard-to-motivate seventeen-year-old boy named Lada (Ladislav Sedivý), whose mother Marie (Zuzana Bydzovská) innocently takes a fancy to the new bachelor in town, at least until she figures out the situation.

Indeed, figuring out the true situation is what writer-director Bohdan Sláma's beautifully nuanced character study is all about — sorting out the possibilities and realizing when to engage and when to back off. Earthy, red-haired farmer Marie seems to be looking for a man to help her with her cows, but when she begins to recognize that Petr is unavailable she nevertheless welcomes his friendship — even after a disastrous drunken visit by Petr's former lover from Prague during the town festival. What Marie cannot abide, however, is Petr's attraction to her son. The teacher circles the student like a moth around a flame.

Who gets burned and who doesn't occupies the heart of Sláma's story. The character of Petr achieves stature right before our eyes, elevating himself from a nondescript man with a dyspeptic expression to a naturalistic Middle European version of a tragic hero. Liska, who has worked on all three of Sláma's feature films, impresses us in the same way that Petr wins over Marie and the villagers — by the care and kindness Petr shows his students. Petr has a weakness, but then so does everyone else in the village, from Lada and his girlfriend to lonely Marie. Everybody needs someone to love, Sláma informs us, but you have to line up your shots with care. ●

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, note the abbreviations at the end of each listing, then consult the theater guide at the bottom of this page. Capsule reviews are written by Andrew Gronvall (A.G.), Cole Haddon (C.H.), J.R. Jones (J.J.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to editor@eastbayexpress.com

OPENING

$9.99 [illegible] Sydney, Australia apartment dwellers struggle to find meaning in their lives in this stop-motion animated drama from director Tatia Rosenthal. (78 min.) CR, BGC

Blood: The Last Vampire Silly martial arts fantasy nevertheless has several good fight scenes. A 16th-century Japanese samurai "demon hunter" reincarnates in 1970 as a handy-with-the-blade sixteen-year-old schoolgirl named Saya (Gianna Jun) in order to dispatch "the oldest, vilest demon of all," Onigen (Koyuki), in and around a US Air Force base near Tokyo. Wooden dialogue, worse acting, but producer Bill Kong (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*) must have had some influence on the tasteful, well-staged combats. Forget about the CIA subplot. This live-action remake of a shorter anime of the same title is written by the original [illegible] Kenji Kamiyama and Katsuya Terada, and directed by Chris Nahon. Shot on location in China and Argentina, not Japan. (91 min.) (K.V.) B

Brüno Sacha Baron Cohen (*Borat*) returns as flamboyant Austrian fashionista Bruno in this boundary-pushing comedy. Featuring appearances by Bono, Chris Martin, Snoop Dogg, Elton John, Slash, and more. (83 min.) BC, BP, CWC, [illegible]

The Country Teacher Petr, the shy, bespectacled [illegible] (Pavel Liska), newly assigned to the local high school in the Czech village with a guilty secret and barely controllable urges — both aimed at his fondness for his teenage boy students. Earthy [illegible] Marie (Zuzana Bydzovská) is attracted to Petr and tries to help him, even though he's more interested in her son. Writer-director Bohdan Sláma gives this delicate situation an Eastern European sense of [illegible] either Petr's or Marie's anguished loneliness, and the character parts are as well drawn as the leads. Worth a look as it breaks free from the festival circuit. (103 min.) (K.V.) S

I Love You, Beth Cooper With roles that some [illegible] Cera and Jonah Hill, this nerd wish-fulfillment comedy reminded me of *Superbad*, though a more accurate title might be *Sub-Bad*. A grinding high school valedictorian (Paul Rust) takes advantage of his commencement speech to humiliate all the classmates who treated him badly and proclaim his love for the school's vixen of a cheerleading captain (Hayden Panettiere). Inexplicably she shows up at his door that night with two more cuties to take him and his dorky, movie-quoting pal (Jack Carpenter) on a ride they'll never forget. But I already have, so I'll quit here. Chris Columbus directed. (102 min.) (J.J.) BC, BP, CWC, [illegible]

Tetro Francis Ford Coppola achieved a light,

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com

Theater Guide

This guide explains the abbreviations at the end of each capsule. **AL** = Albany, **AZO** = Alameda Theatre & Cineplex, **BC** = Brenden Concord, **BH** = Blackhawk, **BP** = location pending, **BS** = Bay Street, **CA** = California, **CAPH** = CineArts Pleasant Hill, **CB** = [illegible], **CCC** = Contra Costa Cinemas, **CAPH** = Century Pleasant Hill, **CH** = Century Hilltop, **CHY** = Century Hayward, **CD** = Cinedome Newark, **CWC** = Crow Canyon, **CSC** = Chabot Space and Science, **CUC** = Century Union City, **CWC** = Century Walnut Creek, **DV** = Deer Valley, **GL** = Grand Lake, **JL** = Jack London, **LP** = La Peña, **ND** = [illegible], **OA** = Oaks, **OR** = Orinda, **PM** = Piedmont, **RA** = Regal Antioch, **RCC** = Rialto Cinemas Cerrito, **RCE** = Rialto Cinemas Elmwood, **RH** = Regal Hacienda, **RT** = Rheem Theater, **S** = Shattuck, **UAB** = UA Berkeley, **UAEB** = UA Emery Bay, **V** = Vine, **WWS** = West Wind Solano

FEATURING THE TALENTS OF
ACADEMY AWARD WINNER GEOFFREY RUSH · GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER ANTHONY LaPAGLIA

"ENCHANTING."
Lisa Schwarzbaum, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"INTRIGUING AND FUNNY."
Kyle Smith, NEW YORK POST

"★★★★"
Critics' Pick
TIME OUT NEW YORK

$9.99

OPENS FRIDAY, JULY 10TH

Berkeley
OAKS THEATRE · ELMWOOD 2966 COLLEGE AVENUE
San Francisco
LUMIERE

www.9dollars99movie.com

"THE BIGGEST MOVIE OF THE SUMMER HAS ARRIVED!"

TRANSFORMERS
REVENGE OF THE FALLEN

PG-13

TransformersMovie.com

EXPERIENCE IT IN IMAX NOW

REGAL CINEMAS HACIENDA CROSSINGS STADIUM 21 & IMAX Dublin 800/FANDANGO #130

AMC BAY STREET 16 & IMAX Emeryville 510/457-4AMC

AND IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE · CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES

MOT

melancholic, very European tone of regret in this drama looks [illegible] a pair of estranged [illegible] half-brothers — a young [illegible] ship steward (Alden Ehrenreich) and a bitter failed writer who calls himself Tetro (Vincent Gallo) — who reunite in Buenos Aires and [illegible] dredge up the past. It's Coppola's best, most [illegible] film since [illegible], helped along by Mihai Malaimare Jr.'s [illegible] cinematography and [illegible] tribute to Michael Powell's The Tales of Hoffmann. The well chosen supporting cast [illegible] Maribel Verdú [illegible] and Carmen Maura as "Alone." (127 min.) (K.V.) S

ONGOING

Angels & Demons Who is killing off the College of Cardinals? Tom Hanks, reprising his role from The Da Vinci Code as professor/sleuth Robert Langdon, races through [illegible] and the tombs and religious [illegible] of Rome, trying to head off an explosion that would destroy the Vatican. It's a plot by [illegible] — courtesy of [illegible] Dan Brown. [illegible] chase sequences, but director Ron Howard lets the religious shock and awe — not to mention the gaudy splendor of St. Peter's — overpower the plot's rationalism. It's a [illegible] for devout Catholics. [illegible] Maybe this [illegible] should have been [illegible] by someone who understands [illegible]. Co-starring Ewan McGregor, Ayelet Zurer, Stellan Skarsgård, Armin Mueller-Stahl (138 min.) (K.V.) [illegible] V

Away We Go The casting of Saturday Night Live's Maya Rudolph and fellow TV star John Krasinski (The Office) as Verona and Burt, an expectant couple traveling the US looking for the ideal place to raise a family, is the best thing about [illegible]. Second best thing is the organic-feeling screenplay by Dave Eggers and Vendela Vida. Sam Mendes' (Revolutionary Road) [illegible] direction takes third prize. [illegible] of supporting actors — Maggie Gyllenhaal, Catherine O'Hara, Jeff Daniels, Chris Messina, Allison Janney — playing [illegible] stereotype available in North America. [illegible] everyone's kid [illegible] (97 min.) (K.V.) CWC, CAPH, CA, UA[illegible]

The Brothers Bloom Con men siblings Adrien Brody and Mark Ruffalo [illegible] schemes to separate a gullible heiress (Rachel Weisz) [illegible]. But Rian Johnson's [illegible] drama is more of a European-style atmospheric romance than a heist flick, with lovely lovers Brody and Weisz doing most of the [illegible] while [illegible] and his reticent [illegible] sidekick (Rinko Kikuchi from Babel) supply [illegible]. Writer-director [illegible] with playful [illegible] of [illegible] The Conformist [illegible] by Robbie Coltrane, Maximilian Schell, and narrator Ricky Jay. Eye candy with a soul. (113 min.) (K.V.) V

Chéri A large, fluffy, overstuffed [illegible] romance, courtesy [illegible] director Stephen Frears, who [illegible] Christopher Hampton's adaptation of Colette's [illegible] love story. We're left with the [illegible] version of a [illegible] fashion show: a middle-aged Parisian courtesan [illegible] (Michelle Pfeiffer) [illegible] an affair with a young dandy (Rupert Friend) [illegible] and dodging the barbs of her [illegible] Kathy Bates, Anita Pallenberg, [illegible] smelling salts [illegible] to stay awake (100 min.) (K.V.) CAPH, AL, PM

Cosmic Voyage Brings [illegible] the universe [illegible] in a 40-min IMAX [illegible] CSC

Departures A [illegible] loses his orchestra job and [illegible] with his wife to his home town in northeastern Japan, where he [illegible] answers a help wanted ad and [illegible] a job as a *nokanshi* or "encoffineer" — the [illegible] preparing a corpse for cremation. The new job changes his [illegible] life naturally. Terrific performances by Masahiro Motoki as the [illegible] with warm-hearted support by Tsutomu Yamazaki as the [illegible] master. Directed [illegible] by Yojiro Takita from a screenplay by [illegible] (130 min.) (K.V.) S

Dinosaurs Alive From the [illegible] of the [illegible] comes [illegible] uncovered by paleontologists and [illegible] realistic CGI. CSC

Drag Me to Hell After [illegible] three Spider-Man movies, Sam Raimi makes a [illegible] return to the horror genre, though his [illegible] Evil Dead trilogy is replaced here by a [illegible] of guilt, shame, and [illegible]. Soulful Alison Lohman plays a loan officer trying to get [illegible] at work so she can impress the snooty [illegible] of her [illegible] sweetheart (Justin Long), prodded by her boss (David Paymer) [illegible] on the mortgage of an [illegible] (Lorna Raver), who retaliates by [illegible]. The biggest [illegible] bugs, worms, [illegible] physical [illegible] of her [illegible] emotions — and [illegible] ends the story with [illegible] signature (99 min.) (K.V.) [illegible]

Food, Inc. It's worse than we thought. Robert Kenner's alarming food industry exposé documentary will not only make you want to swear off factory-farmed meat but practically everything else on the shelves of your local supermarket. With help from [illegible] Michael Pollan and Eric Schlosser, Kenner's team crawls the [illegible] fields and feed lots where Monsanto, Cargill, Tyson, and other [illegible] industrials [illegible] to bring American consumers their daily ration of fats and sugars. The [illegible] Wal-Mart [illegible] thanks to consumer [illegible]. So, [illegible] healthier food [illegible] (94 min.) (K.V.) CAPH, RCE

Forces of Nature Learn about the [illegible] of earthquakes, volcanoes, [illegible] and hurricanes and be [illegible] by their effects [illegible] in National Geographic's [illegible] IMAX [illegible] CSC

The Girl from Monaco Deceptively plotted French [illegible] comedy stars Fabrice Luchini as a Parisian criminal lawyer in Monaco for a murder trial [illegible] Louise Bourgoin as the [illegible] TV weather girl who gets a crush on him, and [illegible] Roschdy Zem as the court-appointed bodyguard whose duty to [illegible] the middle-aged lawyer means following him into nightclubs [illegible] younger woman, rescuing him after [illegible] alcohol and pills, etc. The writing, by director Anne Fontaine (How I Killed My Father) and Benoît Graffin [illegible] starts out [illegible] and gracefully [illegible] into [illegible] territory. Winning scene-stealing by Fontaine and [illegible] performances by all three principals (95 min.) (K.V.) S

The Hangover Standard-brand [illegible] bromance [illegible] four guys through a drunken Las Vegas bachelor-party weekend [illegible] forget everything that happened the night before. [illegible] the memory of this [illegible], written by Jon Lucas and Scott Moore and directed by Todd Phillips. [illegible] Ken Jeong [illegible] as Mr. Chow, the naked Chinese gangster [illegible] in the car trunk. Everything else should be [illegible] with Alka-Seltzer and Lysol. With Ed Helms, Zach Galifianakis, Bradley Cooper, and Justin Bartha (100 min.) (K.V.) ATC, BS, BC, BP, CWC, C8, CEPH, CH, CUC, CHY, DH, EM, DCC, GL, [illegible] CRC, RA, RH, H, [illegible] UAB

The Human Body Ever wonder how your body does what it does — without your having to tell it to? Find out in this fascinating trip through (you guessed it) the human body. [illegible] journey [illegible] 200-mph [illegible] CSC

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs Not even 3D can save the third entry in the Fox animation franchise about a motley crew of prehistoric companions. This time they face threats from [illegible] as Sid the sloth discovers a trio of dinosaur eggs, [illegible] hatchlings, [illegible] wrath of their mama, a Tyrannosaurus rex. Simon Pegg provides the [illegible] of a [illegible] weasel [illegible] the gang through [illegible] grows [illegible] baby animals. Carlos Saldanha and Mike Thurmeier [illegible]. Among the [illegible] voice talent are Ray Romano, Queen Latifah, Denis Leary, and John Leguizamo (87 min.) (A.G.) ATC, BS, BC, BP, CWC, C8, CEPH, CH, CUC, CHY, CLC, DH, DCC, GL, CRC, RA, RH, JL, RT, UAB, WHS

Kal Kissne Dekha Vivek Sharma (Bhoothnath) [illegible] and directed this [illegible]

NOW THAT SHE'S HERE
THERE WILL BE BLOOD.

"A WORLD-CLASS ACTION FILM! ...TURNING THE VAMPIRE GENRE ON ITS EAR."
Mike Seymour, SCIFI.COM

"IT'S LIKE *KILL BILL* ON CRACK!"
[illegible] SCREEN

First 100 patrons get a FREE limited edition FULL SIZE poster!!

CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON & HERO

BLOOD
THE LAST VAMPIRE

STARTS FRIDAY JULY 10TH
LANDMARK THEATRES Shattuck

WWW.BLOODTHELASTVAMPIRE-MOVIE.COM

student Nihal Singh, played by Jaddy Bhagwani who learns he has the power to see into the future. (134 min.) (H)

Land of the Lost Will Ferrell's body may be flabby but his comic timing is perfect and the writing is sharp in this intelligent but goofy summer CGI-fest about a professor of "quantum paleontology" (Ferrell) who time-travels with another scientist (Anna Friel) and a redneck dolt (the dependable Danny McBride) to a desert/jungle setting where dinosaurs roam and all sorts of pop-cultural anomalies are strewn about — like the soundtrack of *A Chorus Line*. Director Brad Silberling (*Lemony Snicket's Series of Unfortunate Events*) and writers Chris Henchy and Dennis McNicholas put in the generally witty gags and make Jorma Taccone almost steals the movie as Chaka, a hairy caveman. Loosely based on Sid and Marty Krofft's '70s-era TV series. And yes, that's Leonard Nimoy's voice as *The Zarn* (93 min.) (PG-13) (KE)

The Living Sea You've seen *Finding Nemo*, now see the real thing. It's a trip to the bottom of the ocean, narrated by Meryl Streep, with songs and music by Sting. CSC

Moon Astronaut Sam Bell (played by Sam Rockwell), serving a three-year lunar harvesting tour on the moon with his GERTY 3000 Robotic Assist, is already stir-crazy as the film opens, and things deteriorate from there. The resulting one-man doppelganger drama shows ability and requires Rockwell endurance. Is Sam himself an android and doesn't realize it? How many Sam Rockwells are enough? These and other questions take up most of the time in pseudo Duncan Jones' ultimately [illegible] sci-fi number, with a screenplay by Nathan Parker from a story by Jones (the Zowie Bowie, son of David). (97 min.) (R) (KE)

My Sister's Keeper Screenwriter Jeremy Leven and director Nick Cassavetes, looking for parents' heartstrings to tug after their Alzheimer's drama *The Notebook* (2004), adapt Jodi Picoult's best-seller about a family imploding by the illness of one sibling (leukemia). The central conflict is far-fetched but fascinating: 11-year-old Anna (Abigail Breslin), who was genetically engineered by her parents (Jason Patric and Cameron Diaz) to serve as a medical donor for her ailing sister, tired of giving up a kidney and bone marrow, hires an ambulance-chasing attorney (Alec Baldwin) to sue the parents for her medical emancipation. Surrounding and ultimately subsuming the ethical struggle is a [illegible] parade of [illegible] though Cassavetes is frequently betrayed by his cast. Diaz is admirably unpleasant as the controlling mother, and Joan Cusack is unusually tough and restrained as the presiding judge. (109 min.) (PG-13) BC BP CWC CG, CEPH CN CUC CR BH RA RP JL

Mysteries of Egypt National Geographic and a team of scientists reveal the architecture, legends, history — and most importantly, mysteries — of ancient Egyptian civilization. CSC

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian How to drain all the wonder out of a sequel: Send Ben Stiller and an army of CGI critters through a second round of slapstick "educational" kiddie-show hijinks. This time with perennial night watchman Stiller in cahoots with Amelia Earhart (Amy Adams). A clear case of number, of the director, co-starring a galaxy of once-interesting actors including Owen Wilson, Steve Coogan, Hank Azaria (and Hank Azaria) Christopher Guest, and inevitable Robin Williams as Teddy Roosevelt. The stories feels like it's been around forever. Robert Ben Garant and Thomas Lennon wrote the screenplay, directed by Shawn Levy. (105 min.) (PG) (KE)

The Proposal Romcom *The Proposal* is formulaic, unoriginal, and utterly predictable, and yet none of that matters, as the chemistry between Sandra Bullock as fire-breathing boss and Ryan Reynolds as her groveling assistant makes up for all the movie's shortcomings. Consider the moment when Margaret (Bullock) discovers her work visa has been canceled: she has no choice but to blackmail Andrew (Reynolds) into marrying her. They head up to Alaska to meet his parents and celebrate the birthday of his spirited grandma (Betty White, brilliant as always) and before long, Andrew takes on new dimensions, Margaret starts to see him as a real person. And, well, you get the idea. It's not rocket science. It's just fun. (107 min.) (PG-13) AMC, BC, BP, CWC, CV, CEPH CN, CUC, CNY, CR, CLC, UCC, BA, BR, CRC, RA, RH, JL, RCC, UA

Public Enemies It's a Michael Mann–Johnny Depp version of legendary Midwestern outlaw John Dillinger's life and times, delves deeply into the Great Depression, a dark, moody, fatalistic Dillinger (Depp) trying to outrun G-man crime-fighter Melvin Purvis (Christian Bale) while leaving a trail of hick-town banks. As dramatized by director Mann and co-writers Ronan Bennett and Ann Biderman (they adapted Bryan Burrough's book), Dillinger presented a threat to both J. Edgar Hoover's FBI and organized crime — he had to go. But on the way out, there are enough jail breaks, ambushes, and tommy guns to satisfy anyone's violent fantasies of a populist Robin Hood. Terrific supporting cast: Marion Cotillard as Dillinger's girlfriend, Stephen Dorff as a henchman, Billy Crudup as the whiny Hoover, Lili Taylor as a 1930s female sheriff, Stephen Lang as a grim Fed, et al. Gorgeous cinematography by Dante Spinotti. Somber but magnificent. (140 min.) (R) AMC BS BC BP CWC CD CEPH CH CUC CR BR CCC CA PM CRC RA RH

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket buying at EastBayExpress.com

Star Trek J.J. Abrams reboots the future in *Star Trek*, and in the process resurrects a franchise most thought was dead. With Kirk [illegible] by flashing back in time (from Captain Jean-Luc Picard's *The Next Generation*) to the first moment James T. Kirk, Spock, and Dr. McCoy shared the Enterprise, before even the original television series. Thanks to a nifty time-traveling Spock (Leonard Nimoy) from the future of the future, Abrams manages to [illegible] and lend a sense of surprise to the proceedings. Recasting is admirable (especially Zachary Quinto and Karl Urban as Spock and McCoy), and the action will make newbies want to sign up and join Starfleet. (126 min.) (PG-13) BS CWC CUC, CNY 5 [illegible] BT NWS

The Stoning of Soraya M. A scheming husband gets rid of his inconvenient wife by conspiring with a religious leader to get her condemned to death by stoning. Welcome to Islamic-revolutionary Iran since 1979, one of the world's hot spots for such atrocities. And welcome to Outrage Porn, deftly wielded by director Cyrus Nowrasteh, following journalist Freidoune Sahebjam's book (adapted by Nowrasteh), tale of the [illegible] showing how male-dominated religious hysteria intersects with plain old lust. The actual stoning of the unfortunate Soraya (Iranian-American actor Mozhan Marnò) goes on a long time, with spurting blood and multiple camera angles to catch each individual rock striking her head, as prepared. A strange and repugnant piece of work, almost an anti-Islamist Iranian agit-prop. Starring Shohreh Aghdashloo as [illegible], Caviezel as a reporter, and [illegible] (R) (KE)

The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3 Not insulting, but also hardly an improvement on the 1974 original. Four thugs led by maniacal John Travolta commandeer a New York City subway train and it's up to mild-mannered transit exec Denzel Washington to stop them. Someone should have stopped Redball expert Tony Scott (*Deja Vu*) from getting hold of the project — all he does is add unnecessary car crashes and CGI explosions instead of letting Washington, cop John Turturro, and NYC mayor James Gandolfini take center stage. For tammy Travolta there was no need in the first place. Ron [illegible] screenplay by Brian Helgeland, adapted from John Godey's novel. (106 min.) (R) (KE) CUC CNY CAPH CR RA RH JL UA

"A MESMERIZING MINDBENDER! DUNCAN JONES PULLS OFF SCI-FI MIRACLES. SAM ROCKWELL IS BRILLIANT. YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!"
— PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

SAM ROCKWELL

MOON

A FILM BY DUNCAN JONES

LANDMARK'S SHATTUCK
2230 Shattuck Avenue Berkeley
510 464 5980

CINEARTS @ PLEASANT HILL
2341 Monument Blvd. Pleasant Hill
(925) 687 1100

VIEW THE TRAILER AT WWW.MOON-MOVIE.COM

Ed Begley Jr. | Patricia Clarkson | Larry David | Conleth Hill | Michael McKean | Evan Rachel Wood

"NO KIDDING: THIS IS THE FEEL-GOOD MOVIE OF THE YEAR AND A CINEMATIC SOUL MASSAGE."
Richard Corliss, TIME MAGAZINE

Whatever Works
A NEW comedy
written and directed by Woody Allen

NOW PLAYING!

VIEW THE TRAILER AT WWW.WHATEVERWORKSFILM.COM

CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON
In 3D! ~ Friday July 10, 8pm

The perfect summer creature-feature in 3D with glasses included. A scientific expedition into the Amazon's "Black Lagoon" to investigate a legend missing link between man and fish. One of the greatest movie monsters: the Gill Man!

Paramount Movie Classics include live Wurlitzer organ serenade, Dec-O-Win raffle, newsreel cartoon, and previews. Doors open at 7pm.

Admission ONLY $5 ticketmaster.com or call 800 745 3000

PARAMOUNT THEATRE

2025 BROADWAY OAKLAND — 510-465-6400

FOX SEARCHLIGHT | EAST BAY EXPRESS

You could spend a lovely summer evening at the July 13 advance screening of

"'500 DAYS OF SUMMER' IS MAGIC. IT WILL OWN YOU."

This is not a love story. This is a story about love.

(500) DAYS OF SUMMER

Joseph Gordon-Levitt
Zooey Deschanel

500DAYSOFSUMMER.COM

Simply tell us your top 5 favorite ways to spend a summer day.

Email your answers with your full name and mailing address to
FoxSearchlight_Promos@43kix.com
(subject line: 500 EBEX)
no later than 11:00 AM Thursday, July 9, 2009,
and you'll be entered to win a pass good for two people!

IN SELECT THEATRES FRIDAY, JULY 17

MET

Terminator Salvation Fourth installment (not counting the TV series) of the paranoia-prone humans-vs.-machines yarn pits time-traveling savior of humanity John Connor (Christian Bale) against swarms of evil giant robots intent on stomping out humankind, with dubious help from a renegade but disguised as a Resistance fighter (Sam Worthington). Same concept as always. [illegible] Connor's [illegible] the future, as [illegible] (Charlie's Angels, Fast Thrills) [illegible] from Mad Max and [illegible] pretty good. [illegible] plot from Williams [illegible] good.) The cast we've seen before, including a [illegible] Written by a couple of [illegible] John D. Brancato and [illegible]

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com.

Ferris (115 min.) (KV) (V

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen Master of [illegible] Michael Bay delivers a sequel to his 2007 hit, inspired by the 1980s Hasbro toys. [illegible] Shia LaBeouf returns as the teenage [illegible] off to college, who's drawn back into the intergalactic war between the [illegible] and the evil [illegible]. The special effects are better and the dialogue slightly more humorous than in the first movie, [illegible] the enduring [illegible] with an Egyptian pyramid and part of the antique Jordanian city of Petra (150 min.) (A.G.) (AIC, [illegible] CWC, CB, CEPH, [illegible] CH, BR, COC, GL, [illegible] JL, UAL, WWS

Unmistaken Child [illegible] documentary follows a Tibetan monk as he searches for the reincarnation of his late [illegible] master [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] just tags along [illegible] the [illegible] four years, [illegible] meetings with the Dalai Lama — and those of a less contemplative nature may well wish for an express lane to nirvana. But a [illegible]

bust. If he's not the wish-fulfilling jewel, then who is?" Probably (102 min.) (KV) B

Up Pixar hops on the 3-D animation juggernaut with this vivid humorous fantasy. The story follows a grim-jaw widower and his fantasy [illegible] through [illegible] years later the [illegible] now a [illegible] old and [illegible] by Ed Asner) [illegible] with hundreds of helium balloons in hopes of making the [illegible] he'd always promised his wife. When he and a young [illegible] (Jordan Nagai) land in a mountain jungle populated by a [illegible] and a pack of talking dogs, the elderly [illegible] out of his comfort zone. [illegible] Pete Docter and Bob Peterson present [illegible] and [illegible] with the [illegible] that only by letting go of the past can we free ourselves to soar (90 min.) (A.G.) [illegible] CWC, CB, CEPH, [illegible] JL, PT, WWS

Whatever Works [illegible] Woody Allen's dialogue they sound like him when Larry David [illegible] himself, [illegible] and the ideal stand-in and soul mate for the [illegible]. David plays a misanthropic [illegible] in quantum mechanics who [illegible]

LANDMARK THEATRES
[illegible]
$6.00 Tickets for Students & Seniors!
[illegible]
★ = Academy Award® Winner
[illegible]

ALBANY 1115 Solano Ave at San Pablo, Albany
Buy tix: www.landmarktheatres.com or 777-FILM #013

CHÉRI (R)
[illegible]

WHATEVER WORKS (PG-13)
[illegible]

CALIFORNIA 2113 Kittredge near Shattuck, Berkeley
Buy tix: www.landmarktheatres.com or 777-FILM #013

PUBLIC ENEMIES (R)
[illegible]

AWAY WE GO (R)
[illegible]

PIEDMONT 4186 Piedmont at 41st, Oakland
Buy tix: www.landmarktheatres.com or 777-FILM #005

PUBLIC ENEMIES (R)
[illegible]

WHATEVER WORKS (PG-13)
[illegible]

CHÉRI (R)
[illegible]

SHATTUCK 2230 Shattuck at Kittredge, Berkeley
[illegible]

Screening Lounge
UNMISTAKEN CHILD (NR)
[illegible]

Screening Lounge
STAR TREK (PG-13)
[illegible]

THE GIRL FROM MONACO (R)
[illegible]

UP (PG)
[illegible]

MOON (R)
[illegible]

★ DEPARTURES (PG-13)
[illegible]

THE STONING OF SORAYA M. (R)
[illegible]

YEAR ONE (PG-13)
[illegible]

BLOOD: THE LAST VAMPIRE (R)
[illegible]

THE COUNTRY TEACHER (NR)
[illegible]

TETRO (NR)
[illegible]

= The Screening Lounge

www.LandmarkTheatres.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION
[illegible] FILM FESTIVAL
"A GREAT STORY OF LOVE, FRIENDSHIP AND FORGIVENESS."
[illegible]
THE COUNTRY TEACHER
a film by Bohdan Sláma
ONE WEEK ONLY!
STARTS JULY 10TH
LANDMARK THEATRES
Shattuck
[illegible]

"GET IN LINE IMMEDIATELY."
[illegible]
(500) DAYS OF SUMMER
IN THEATRES
(JULY 24)
PG-13

RIALTO
ELMWOOD
[illegible]
"There Is Something Undeniably Hypnotic And Bewitching About This Film!" – Hollywood Reporter
$9.99
(5:30 4:40) 7:00 9:10
"A Riveting Cautionary Tale! This Is One Movie That Truly Provides Food For Thought!"
"More Than Just A Terrific Documentary. It's An Important Movie, One That Nourishes Your Knowledge Of How The World Works!"
FOOD, INC
[illegible]
Please Note: 7:00 show on Wed is Sold Out!
Sandra Bullock Ryan Reynolds
THE PROPOSAL
[illegible] PG-13
[illegible] Matinee Show Sat & Sun Also!
Elmwood Family Film Series presents
BLACK BEAUTY
Sat & Sun Noon All Seats $4
College Ave at Ashby · 510 433-9730
www.rialtocinemas.com

RIALTO
CERRITO
[illegible]
GRAND RE OPENING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15TH!
HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE
Show Wednesday, July 15th!
Midnight show At 12:01 am on Wed Only
(12:00 3:50) 7:00 10:10
"A Riveting Cautionary Tale! This Is One Movie That Truly Provides Food For Thought!" – LA Times
FOOD, INC
Starts Wednesday, July 15th!
(12:30 2:45 5:00) 7:30 9:40 PG
NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: PHEDRE
Starring Helen Mirren
Wed, July 22nd & Thu, July 23rd 7:30pm
Tickets On Sale Now!
Visit rialtocinemas.com or
Call 510 [illegible]
Now Accepting Applications For Rialto Cinemas Cerrito!
10070 San Pablo Ave
www.rialtocinemas.com

I Love You, Beth Cooper

teenager (Evan Rachel Wood) on the run from her Christian parents in Mississippi. Whether you want to trace this romance back to *La Strada* or [illegible] in your book [illegible] I never [illegible] than a writer's conceit. The [illegible] Allen's [illegible] New York after three projects shot in Britain, and the Big Apple [illegible] than ever when the girl's [illegible] (Patricia [illegible]) and then her [illegible] (Ed Begley Jr.) show up, they're crackerjack [illegible] by [illegible] Allen's [illegible] (92 min.) (J.J.) CAPR, AL, PM

X-Men Origins: Wolverine Parts of *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* don't work nearly as well as *X-Men: The Last Stand*, which is a [illegible]. Then again, there are parts that are much worse. Most glaring is the story that, despite the movie's title, Wolverine (again played by Hugh Jackman) is shortchanged in terms of a [illegible] origin. For example, we already knew pretty much everything we hear about the Weapon X program, [illegible] how other [illegible] were used to [illegible] it. We do find out Logan has a [illegible] Sabretooth (Liev Schreiber), whose [illegible] we met in the first X-Men movie — but the [illegible] poorly developed. [illegible] why they hate each other so much. Maybe you'll care, but probably not (107 min.) (C.H.) [illegible]

Year One [illegible] the new [illegible] comedy from [illegible] Harold Ramis [illegible] Zed [illegible] and dull gatherer Oh (Michael Cera) flee their primitive tribe after Zed eats an apple from the Tree of Knowledge and [illegible] he's been chosen by God for something great. This [illegible] of all religions, [illegible] in family since he and Oh [illegible] of Sodom and wind up, for periods, traveling with Cain and Abel. [illegible] the Old Testament, as well as [illegible] many of the [illegible] between ancient [illegible] but the [illegible] is evident by the [illegible] (97 min.) [illegible]

ONE NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY, JULY 9

The Man Who Left His Will on Film (94 min., 1970). At the Pacific Film Archive (Osborne, PFA, 6:30)

Dear Summer Sister (95 min., 1972). At the Realm of Oshima. (PFA, 8:30)

[illegible] and His Comedians [illegible] Street [illegible] at 9th St. and Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 8:00)

Dead Calm (96 min., 1989); animation-[illegible] (Jack London Square, [illegible] 7:30)

FRIDAY, JULY 10

Escape from the Stalag [illegible] (78 min., 1954). Summer Movie Classics (Paramount Theatre, Oakland, 8:00)

SATURDAY, JULY 11

[illegible] of the Flesh (90 min., 1965). In the Realm of Oshima. (PFA, 6:30)

Empire of Passion (108 min., 1978). In the Realm of Oshima. (PFA, 8:30)

[illegible] (106 min., 1971). Family Film Series (RCE, noon)

SUNDAY, JULY 12

Black Beauty (106 min., 1971). Family Film Series (RCE, noon)

TUESDAY, JULY 14

King Lear [illegible] 2001). [illegible] Hall, Oakland, 7:30)

OAKLAND METRO OPERAHOUSE RETURNS TO FORM

After a year of renovation, the Oakland all-ages venue is back on the scene

By Paula Lehman

[illegible]

Ghoul's July 3 performance at the Oakland Metro Operahouse (above); last year's Walsin show

Since its inception, the Oakland Metro Operahouse has faced myriad challenges with its physical space. It began in 1987 with a small venue on Broadway and Second Street. By 2001, however, it had become a dilapidated structure that required major renovation, which fortunately the Oakland Opera Theater Company took on when it decided to make the venue its permanent home. Then, in 2007, spawned by new development in the neighborhood, the building's owner quadrupled the Metro's rent. The venue was forced to relocate during one of the opera company's productions to an empty warehouse further down Third Street. But the space wasn't yet ready for a full-time schedule and closed for seven months. About a year ago the venue finally reopened, hosting operatic shows in addition to its popular monthly poetry slam and variety show Tourettes Without Regrets.

Now, after more remodeling, the venue finally appears to be stabilized and poised to become a major player in the local all-ages scene. So far it's booked about sixty shows — including metal shows like Tyrannosaurus Christ, punk theater such as Handel's ancient political farce *AGRIPPINA*, opera, and even a circus — and has several sold-out performances under its belt, such as *Turn of the Screw*. Metal, however, continues to be its most popular genre. About sixty future shows are already booked.

"We're really excited, after eighteen months of hard work, we can open our doors and show off a premier venue," said Mia Steadman, a co-owner of the Metro.

It's been a long time coming for Steadman and co-owner Tom Dean, her fiancé. When the Metro first moved into its new location, it had no running water, a poor sound system, and a lot of empty space. With the help of some stagehands and funding from the Fly Shacker Foundation, private donors, Oakland's Community and Economic Development Agency, its landlords, and some of their own money, Steadman and Dean have completely retrofitted the venue — a project that took nearly a year.

The new Metro is nearly twice the size of the old building at 6,000 square feet, and has fourteen bathrooms and great acoustics thanks to some new pillars, wall padding, and a new sound system. All that's left to do is hook up a couple sinks to the newly tiled bar and the "miracle," as Steadman calls it, will be complete.

Part of the reason for the abundance of shows coming to the Metro this summer is due to the final occupancy permit from the city that was acquired in June. That gives the owners liberty to book as many shows as they want.

And the acts are adding up. Duke Ellington's opera *Queenie Pie* recently played to a sold-out crowd, and the Mission Creek Music and Arts Festival will feature shows there this month.

One thing that hasn't changed is the Metro's "all ages, all the time" policy. It's a major factor contributing to the club's popularity with bands and their fans, according to Dean and Steadman. While some clubs find it too risky to forgo liquor sales, Dean says that's the last thing he's worried about.

"Promoters prefer all ages because we can make guarantees to sell more tickets," Dean said. "A lot of people want to see live music and our focus is not selling alcohol. It's putting on performances."

Alex Zepeda, who booked the venue for the Mission Creek Music and Arts Festival, remembers the disappointment she felt when she had to miss shows that were 21 and over. Now as a promoter she insists on booking venues that can promise an all-ages show.

"When I go to a new show I study the audience, and the people having the most fun or connecting more with the artists are the younger crowd," Zepeda said. "I could have done a 21 and over show but I don't like the idea of excluding younger people from something that's going to be so good for them."

Bands have adopted this philosophy as well. Sean McGrath — better known as "The Digestor" to his fans — performed at the Metro on July 3 with his band Ghoul. While most of Ghoul's members are now in their late twenties and early thirties, McGrath remembers having to wait outside 21-and-over venues with his old band, Impaled, because he was underage.

The "vibe," as McGrath describes it, is just better with all-ages shows. "We mostly avoid doing 21-and-over shows," he said. "The audience for our music is younger and the energy is not always so great when it's 21 and up. We're really glad there are places like the Metro where we can play for kids because they're the ones who are really amped to be there."

Besides catering to the younger generation's musical taste, the Metro's bookers also keep ticket prices relatively low, at an average of $10, and start shows at 8 p.m. so curfews can be made.

The Metro continues to grow, not only in size, but in shows and popularity. It's nearly doubled all three in a very short period of time. For owners and concert goers alike, it truly is a "miracle."

◆

Paula.Lehman@EastBayExpress.com

Show Details

The next show at the Oakland Metro Operahouse (630 3rd St., Oakland) will be the Bay Area Girls Rock Camp Showcase on Saturday, July 11, 2 p.m. $10. For a full schedule, check out OaklandMetro.org.

STORK CLUB LIVE MUSIC
ROCK & ROLL ○ OAKLAND
$2 PABST BOTTLES EVERYNITE!
2330 TELEGRAPH AVE.
OAKLAND, CA 94612
(510) 444-6174

WED 7/8
KREATON COLLECTIVE / FRANK CRUZ AND THE NEW DEAL / TWO COLORS

THU 7/9 $7
LAVA NIGHTS! / APACHE / THE GREATEST HITS / LORD VON RAVEN / PRETTY VANILLA

FRI 7/10 $6
DEATH ROCK DIVE BAR / DJ DEATHBOY / ALARIC / TELL TALE HEARTBREAKERS / AMBER ASYLUM

SAT 7/11
BEER PONG TOURNAMENT!!
REGISTRATION NOON-2PM

SAT 7/11
MIRROR FAUNA / BRITTAIN ASHFORD / ASH REITER / BEATBEAT WHISPER

SUN 7/12
"THE FESTIVAL OF DRUMMERS" 4PM - MIDNIGHT
DJ MOLE / DJ TIGHT / KELSEY ON ACCORDION / HARLAN HOLLANDER / DAVID & JOANNA / INTSIDE / BUNNY NUMPKINS AND THE KILL BLOW-UP REACTION / THE HAPPY CLAMS / SIDDHARTHA / THE NEW DYSFUNCTIONS / STATIC MINDS

TUE 7/14
DRINK YOUR BLUES AWAY $2 PABST ALL NITE
LOVELIGHT BLUES BAND

NOW OPEN TUE-FRI @ 2PM • HAPPY HOUR 5-7PM
TO BOOK YOUR BAND, PLEASE CONTACT:
STORKCLUBBOOKING@GMAIL.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
WWW.STORKCLUBOAKLAND.COM

Shattuck Down Low

WED. 8TH:
BORINQUEN
live salsa & dance lessons

THURS. 9TH:
TRUESKOOL PRESENTS
THURSDAY THROWDOWN W/
REN THE VINYL ARCHAEOLOGIST

SAT. 11TH:
"ANGEL MAGIK":
DJ'S JAH KHO,
ROMEO & YOUNG FYAH
soca, dancehall & hip hop

SUN. 12TH:
"KING OF KING'S"
DJS SMOKE ONE,
MIKEY ASSASSIN & JAH YZER
roots, reggae, dancehall

WED. 15TH:
MAZACOTE
live salsa & dance lessons

TUESDAYS: KARAOKE 8PM SIGN UPS

2284 SHATTUCK AVE DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
510 548 1159 SHATTUCKDOWNLOW.COM

EAST BAY EXPRESS

FREE ALL DAY

SUBCULTURES

EAST BAY EXPRESS BEST OF THE EAST BAY PARTY

AUGUST 7 • 5 P.M.–MIDNIGHT
OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA

OUTDOOR VILLAGE
FOOD, DRINKS, ARTISTS, RETAILERS, AND NONPROFITS

GEARHEAD GARAGE

PERFORMANCE BIKE DEMO
BY GODSPEED

RAT BIKE EXHIBIT
(EAST BAY RATS)

HARLEY-DAVIDSON SHOW

TATTOO/PINUP ART EXHIBIT

CLASSIC/CUSTOM CAR SHOW

ART! ART! ART!

A COLLISON OF PUBLIC ART, LIVE MUSIC AND FILM BY
ARTISTS FROM THE ILLUMINATED CORRIDOR

LIVE ART
SPONSORED BY
MONTANA CANS
BLICK art materials

VISIT THE OMCA'S SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

AFRICAN PRESENCE IN MEXICO
SQUEAK CARNWATH: PAINTING IS NO ORDINARY OBJECT
$5 Members And Age 6 And Under Free.

chabot space & science center
KIDS ZONE
LIVE MUSIC FROM RANDWORKS, MAGIC SHOWS, ART PROJECTS, LEARNING AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 10 AND UNDER

BIKE VALET PARKING AVAILABLE BY THE EAST BAY BIKE COALITION • ONE BLOCK FROM LAKE MERRITT BART STATION

Main Stage

GOAPELE
SOCIAL UNREST
THE SOULS OF MISCHEIF
THE HEAVENLY STATES
DIZZY BALLOON
MALDROID
SUPERFINOS VTO
THE THRILL OF IT ALL
C U NEXT WEEKEND (SHAMPU)
MYSTIC RAGE SWANN DANGER
FRACAS 7TH ST. BAND

Bud Light Lime
GREEN ROOM

COMEDY & GAMES

International Dance Stage

MEZZANINE STAGE

JAZZ VOCALIST'S
STEPHANIE CRAWFORD & TRIO
AND
VALERIE TROUTT

ELECTRONICA UNDERGROUND

PRODUCED BY THE OPULENT TEMPLE AND OPEL PRODUCTIONS

DRESDEN & JOHNSTON
DYLOOT SYD GRIS
DUTCH MEPHISTO ODYSSY

DAI
Style Lounge
EXHIBITING OVER 40 LOCAL, INDEPENDENT DESIGNERS, INCLUDING FASHION SHOWS MAKEOVERS AND SALON SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL CONTACT SPORTS
FEATURING
SOJA MARTIAL ARTS STUDIO
KINGS BOXING GYM
BAY MOUNTAIN WING TSUN

ALCOHOL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ONECALIFORNIA FOUNDATION ▪ FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION, VISIT EASTBAYEXPRESS.WORDPRESS.COM

•Oakland•

Wednesdays!
Brain Damage:
Drinkin' Music with
Your host King Davey
and DJ Hicksmokey!

Weekend Brunch!
Saturday and Sunday
all you can eat waffles $7!

Happy Hour 4 until 8
$1.50 Pabst on tap!

Late Night Food!

Open Tuesday - Sunday
5532 San Pablo Ave, Oakland

OAKLAND METRO OPERAHOUSE
all ages all the time

JULY 11TH
GIRLS ROCK CAMP SHOWCASE
www.bayareagirlsrockcamp.org
$10 1:00PM

JULY 14TH
RUN GUNNER RUN
(former members of Once Over)
THE TROPHY FIRE
DAVE SMALLEN
(Street to Nowhere)
ALL LEFT OUT
DYLAN DIMARTINI
(Broken Dolls)
$6 7:00PM

JULY 17TH
MISSION CREEK MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL PRESENTS:
ALTERLATINO ROCK SHOWCASE
INKBLOTS, DEJU, CON OF MAN, LOS VALENBERG, SAGAVAL, QODICE & TIERRA Y FUEGO
$15 8:00PM

JULY 18TH
VERBAL ABUSE,
ONE IN THE CHAMBER,
CHEAPSKATE,
THE HOBO GOBLINS
THE CAN-CANIBALS
$5 - 8:00PM

630 3rd Street • Oakland • 510-763-1146
oaklandmetro.org

OAKLAND'S ONLY HISTORIC PIANO BAR
Rod Dibble Tickles the Ivories
Tuesday-Saturday 9pm-Closing
"THE ALLEY"
OPEN
Dinner Served
7 Days A Week
3325 Grand Ave. • Oakland • (510)444-8505

THE WHITE HORSE INN
DJ RYAN
DJ EDUARDO
DJ DREWBAD
www.whitehorsebar.com
6551 TELEGRAPH OAKLAND 510-652-3820

La Peña
3105 SHATTUCK AVE. BERKELEY 510-849-2568

WED JULY 8 FILM **EL SALVADOR**
I Want My People to Live Dir. Adnan Carrasco

THURS 9 **THE FREE ISSUE**
The Tea Party Magazine Benefit

FRI 10 **TSUKIMI KAI'S**
3rd Annual Fundraiser / Nikkei & Latino Music

SAT 11 **AGUACERO**
Afro-Puerto Rican music, dance & poetry

SUN 12 **LEE GOLAND LIVES**
Tribute Concert to the Late Songwriter

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.LAPENA.ORG

HOME OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC
FREIGHT & SALVAGE
COFFEEHOUSE

WED JUL 8 Chip Taylor w/ Kendel Carson
"Wild Thing" "Angel of the Morning" writer
THU JUL 9 Ed Gerhard
Grammy-winning fingerstyle guitar master
FRI JUL 10 Alexis Harte
Deborah Pardes opens
SAT JUL 11 Jim Kweskin
traditional American music master
SUN JUL 12 Jack Williams
Southern troubadour
WED JUL 15 Old Blind Dogs

1111 Addison Street • Berkeley
(510) 548-1761 • freightandsalvage.org
18 and under 1/2 price • alcohol-free venue

A FESTIVAL FOR THE PERCUSSION SECTION

Drummers get their day at the Stork Club

By Ellen Cushing

Derek Lindsay certainly knows how to put on a show. For one, he's the full-time frontman for two Oakland-based bands — semidefunct garage-rock outfit the Bleu Canadians and dork-rock crew Bunny Numpkins and the Kill Blow Up Reaction. He's also made a name for himself locally by putting on several offbeat music festivals — all held at the Stork Club and all featuring a lineup of local bands playing to some bizarre theme: capes, for example, or fitness, or fans (both electric and human). Even offstage he's a showman with a roaming wit and an unbridled enthusiasm for music, for the East Bay independent scene, and for anything absurd and over-the-top. Take Saturday's Festival of the Drums, which promises to be an all-day celebration of all three. The inspiration came a few months ago when Bunny Numpkins had to play a gig while drummer Miles Steuding was out of town. Lindsay and his bandmates put an open call out to their musician friends for a replacement percussionist, and ended up with seven. The result, Lindsay said, was "fucked up and brilliant and spastic and chaotic — every bit of sound was filled." The gig was so much fun for band and audience alike that Lindsay decided he wanted to recreate that energy on a larger scale. He set a date with the Stork Club and lined up eight venerable local bands — ranging from Bitesize's power pop to Static Mind-Fi's experimental rock — each of which were told to add as many extra drummers as they could get their hands on.

"It's taking bands that don't normally necessarily have these intense, badass drummers and adding them," Lindsay explained. Paul Pot, who sings and plays guitar for the Happy Clams, will be playing with two drummers and a three-piece percussion ensemble, and Julie Serrano of Bitesize said that her band has lined up several finger-cymbalists and a beatboxer.

According to Lindsay, the effect will be an all-out, earsplitting celebration of the often-overlooked drummer — "less Sproul Plaza drum jam and more like like a freight train car accident, or volcano erupting." To that end, he's ratcheted up the insanity by inviting a cast of larger-than-life acts, including a drum corps, spoon players, tabla drummers, San Francisco's Rocketman and a drum circle from a Christian commune in Humboldt County, as well as famed — and dead — percussionists Keith Moon, Jon Bonham and Buddy Rich ("I figure if you don't put them on the list, they'll never come," he deadpanned).

Bunny Numpkins and the Kill Blow Up Reaction.

Lindsay said that this and other such festivals are, essentially, a way to experiment musically and explore the weird — "a forum to express the latest strange idea." But beneath the happy-go-lucky appreciation for the sheerly absurd is a more earnest purpose: Lindsay sees these festivals as something of a community event for many of the East Bay's independent rock groups. Miles Steuding — the drummer whose vacation started it all — said that Lindsay's festivals, for all their wackiness, provide a space for musicians to come together. "It's a community thing, in a weird way. Everyone is in everyone else's band. I think of it as sort of like jazz was in the Forties."

Both Steuding and Lindsay credit the Stork Club for allowing this kind of collaboration and experimentation to happen. "They're not always going after the largest bands, they're not like Bottom of the Hill. And because of that they're willing to tap into this local creativity."

Lindsay is expecting friends and collaborators of the various bands — as well as "leg bouncers, nervous tappers, and hyperactive woodshop dropouts" — and with many audience members who are musicians in their own right, the vibe will be less like a typical show and more like a theme party with a really good playlist. Past events have had audience members drunkenly Jazzercising at the Festival of Fitness or wearing dollar-store shower curtains around their necks at the Festival of Capes. Serrano said that Bitesize is anticipating much crowd participation. "We're looking forward to having some of our friends and fans join us onstage — there will be that blurred line between where the band ends and the audience begins," she said.

Lindsay acknowledged that "there's a fine line between a hippie jam and a worthwhile show," but said, "you know, part of me just wants to embrace the hippie jam." He added that even he doesn't quite know what shape the show will take. "I don't even know what to expect. You never know what's going to happen, but it's always ridiculous and beautiful and takes on a life of its own." ●

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com

Show Details

Festival of the Drums happens Sunday, July 12, at the Stork Club (2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland). Bands include Static Mind-Fi, the New Dyslexicons, Sakkharathe, the Happy Clams, Bunny Numpkins and the Kill Blow Up Reaction, Bitesize, Harlan Hollander, David & Joanne, DJ Mrle, DJ Tidbit, and Kelsey on accordion. 4 p.m. $7. StorkClubOakland.com

MOIST WITH NOSTALGIA

Fusion instrumentalists, old-fashioned R&B, and dad rock at its peak.

Tortoise

Beacons of Ancestorship

When it emerged in the early 1990s, Chicago band Tortoise was lauded for its singular instrumental approach that incorporated aspects of pop, jazz-rock fusion, Jamaican dub, movie soundtrack music, funk, and whatever else the members felt like bringing to the mix. As this decade creeps to a close, is the band as creative now as in its early days? Or has it settled into a comfortable (and predictable) niche?

Beacons of Ancestorship, its sixth album and first in five years, proves that Tortoise isn't just coasting on its rep. To begin with, the members still play fabulously as an ensemble, with no particular player ever dominating. The pensively dreamy "The Fall of Seven Diamonds Plus One" could be from an early 1960s French New Wave film, setting the scene for a clandestine nocturnal meeting, the atmosphere borne on a cloud of sultry guitar twang. "Yinxianghechengqi" begins with a storm of dirty distorted electric bass evoking the Minutemen and Ruins at their most pissed off, before evolving into progressive rock played with hardcore punk fury, then into sleek, slightly arguing cosmic fusion in which John McLaughlin and Chick Corea specialized (circa 1970-74), before giving in to overindulgence (i.e., wank). "Gigantes" combines hip-hop-like rhythm and sampling with a chiming dulcimer (recalling Ennio Morricone's music for spaghetti Westerns), soaring electric guitar, and prog rock synthesizer textures guaranteed to make fans of old school prog (think Yes, Camel, Caravan) moist with nostalgia.

Overflowing with variety and flair, Tortoise still has the right stuff. (Thrill Jockey)

— *Mark Keresman*

Tortoise plays the Great American Music Hall (859 O'Farrell St., San Francisco) on July 13, 8 p.m., $25.

Donnie Williams and Park Place

Just Like Magic

Donnie Williams barely missed his chance at stardom when he was ejected from *American Idol* five years ago. At the time, the Livermore-raised R&B vocalist had everything going for him, from the puppy look to the pliant tenor voice. But he didn't use the tools at his disposal. Now he's reemerged with *Just Like Magic*, a new album whose unintentionally kitschy title accords with Williams' old fashioned, buttery image. His sound imports gospel elements into a song structure that's very much geared toward KBLX radio play. Williams' voice, however, is simply wonderful.

Just Like Magic kicks off with a melancholy ballad about coming up in the struggle, called "Running." Williams sings hard here, recalling Chicago vocalist Donnell Jones in texture and timbre. His emotional freight and layered background vocals give shape to what would otherwise be a standard issue tune (the chord changes are borrowed from India.Arie's Stevie Wonder tribute "Wonderful"). From there, the album gets a little spotty, as the quality of Williams' singing eclipses the originality of his music. He has some talented people backing him up in the studio (keyboardists Kev Choice and Sandra Manning, Brian Collier and Errol Cooney on guitar, fellow *Idol* LaToya London, who gets a track of her own), and listeners might wish he'd enlisted their help on the production end. But he's also got some gems: the upbeat pop rant "Invisible Man," the gospel song "Higher Power," and "Miracles," a chaste duet with his equally talented sister Terrell.

Williams' voice sounds very well developed, making *Just Like Magic* a promising debut. If he reassigns some of the nuts-and-bolts work, he'll be straight. (Chump Change)

— *Rachel Swan*

Wilco

Wilco (The Album)

Full of radiance and subtleties, *Wilco (The Album)* is an ambitious yet confident record from a band at its peak, an eleven-song odyssey that trades skillfully between tension and elation. The preposterous album cover (a camel wearing a party hat) and sly title represent the fun side, but the album also holds shadow-cloaked songs, soaked with images of death, blood, and thrashing desperation. The most stable lineup in Wilco's sometimes tumultuous fifteen years surges ahead without a hint of complacency, allowing the tremendous talents of six musicians to mix in myriad combinations.

A comforting love letter to fans, "Wilco (The Song)" kick-starts the album with the exhilarated urgency of a payday Friday. However, the disc's longest — and most challenging — song is "Bull Black Nova," a veiled and disjointed murder ballad that's harsh, rigid, and relentlessly repetitive at times, spinning and twisting into a fitful paranoia as it builds to a mesmerizing guitar freak-out. Next up is Feist joining Jeff Tweedy for a duet on "You and I," a sorrowful yet sweet ballad. "One Wing" is a showcase for guitarist Nels Cline that sadly stops short of the transcendence of his solo on "Impossible Germany," 2007's *Sky Blue Sky* triumph, while the first single, "You Never Know," is a jaunty piano rocker that'll drive the "dad rock" naysayers up a wall.

Even the album's slowest tunes — "Country Disappeared," "Solitaire," and closer "Everlasting Everything" — open up as soulful and gorgeous gems on repeated listens. (Nonesuch)

— *Eric Swedlund*

LOCAL LICKS

Wild Rude

Positive Voodoo

Despite its best intentions, opener "Run Wild" never recovers from its uneasy resemblance to a mash-up of the Steve Miller Band's "Wide River" and Rush's "Limelight." An impotent cover of Muddy Waters' "Baby, Please Don't Go" fails to cleanse the palate, and overabundant food metaphors burn innuendo to a crisp in blues-rock jam "Special Sauce." (Fault Line Surfer Records)

Bray

Amphibian

This San Francisco artist doesn't do anything that hasn't been done a hundred times before, but generally makes it work. His straightforward hard rock style feels like a cross between Heart and Fuel, and what that approach lacks in edge Bray makes up for with confidence and attitude. The record sounds good, the songs feel good, and sometimes good is plenty good enough. (Sepia Tones)

At the Independent (628 Divisadero St., San Francisco) on July 11, 8 p.m., $15.

Adam Hancock and Family

Adam Hancock and Family

Both pragmatic and sad, a line like *I like to drink by myself/the alcohol lasts longer* is quintessential country, even if Hancock's voice lacks twang. That's okay — Dave Zirbel's pedal steel fills in the gaps. Across two discs and seventeen songs, Hancock and friends' mastery of melancholy country-rock gets a little tired, unless of course you're down in the dumps, too. (self-released)

At the Starry Plough (3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley) on July 10, 9 p.m., $8.

Trez Rek 500

Outside the Lines

Oakland musicians Cary Tefft (vocals) and Tony Marasini (guitar, drums, bass), awkwardly known as Trez Rek 500, rock like no one's watching — which is to say they give their all but don't always pull it off. Thankfully, the rough patches don't fester, and the successful songs suggest at least a passing mastery of Cheap Trick, Queen, and Kiss. (self-released)

Bay Area bands, show us what you've got. Send CDs to Local Licks c/o the *East Bay Express*.

THE BISTRO
Amy Meyers & Friends
Funkestra
Funktional Soul
Secret Sauce Sorcerers
The Bistro Jazz Jam
Open Mic with Jesse
WSR
1001 B St., Hayward

$1 PBR Every Tues. & Thurs. Through July!
401 2nd St Oakland
Buy our gear online!
Merchantssaloon.com

LUKA'S
TAPROOM & LOUNGE
VOTED BEST PLACE TO DANCE
2007 EAST BAY EXPRESS
WED: VOODOO WEDNESDAYS
THURS: DESCENDANTS UNITED
FRI: MIGHTY IRIE
SAT: OAKLAND FADERS, 4ONEFUNK & FINGERBANGERS
SUN: SOUL FULL
MON: old school HIP HOP KARAOKE
TUES: SOUL FYAH
LATE NIGHT MENU
Burger, Mac & Cheese & More
Served until Midnight
7 nights a week
2221 BROADWAY @ WEST GRAND, OAKLAND
510 451 4677 www.LUKASOAKLAND.COM

SUBCULTURES
EAST BAY EXPRESS BEST OF THE EAST BAY 2009

AUG 7, 2009
OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CA
5-MIDNIGHT • ALL AGES
FREE ADMISSION

BEST OF THE EAST BAY
BAND SPOTLIGHT

PERFORMING ON THE MAIN STAGE:
DIZZY BALOON

RELEASES:

"Dizzy Balloon S/T" EP (2008)

BAND MEMBERS:

Petros A.P. (Vocals, Guitar)
Jenny Flannes (Guitar, Vocals)
Joey Orton (Piano, Vocals)
Louie Diller (Drums, Vocals)
Raphael Peterson (Bass, Vocals)

BAND BIO:

Dizzy Balloon is five childhood friends, bound by a passion for songwriting. The band's vision—quest to write the perfect pop song—one that makes you drop everything and go "whoa"—brought the group attention and distinction at a young age. As high school juniors—then performing under the group name "Panda"—the band regularly sold out Bottom Of The Hill, a legendary breeding ground for San Francisco Bay Area talent. The quintet brought a new energy to classic pop—a vibe audiences still can't get enough of.

All our parents raised us on the Beatles, we all have that in our genes," says Jenny Flannes, Dizzy Balloon's guitarist. "The Beatles and Queen are our two biggest influences."

It's tough to argue with that. In fact, arguing is the last thing you think to do after hearing Dizzy Balloon. Listening to DB's music is immediately positive.

A testament to that immediacy came quickly when the group's three song demo—recorded in a single day—garnered steady airplay on KITS (Live105), KSAN (The Bone), and KALX (Berkeley). The media attention pushed the band onto larger stages (at Slim's and Great American Music Hall, to name a few). Live 105 music director Aaron Axelson affectionately called the band "the pride of Piedmont," name-checking the band's small northern California hometown. Not bad for a bunch of kids would could barely drive themselves to their own shows.

The buzz made one thing clear: it was time for an album, something that could bottle up the maturation of the band and the hysteria of its fans. A year-and-a-half in the making, that album would define—and redefine—all that Dizzy Balloon achieved.

The band has always been catchy, "fun" and surprisingly honest, but with the album Dizzy Balloon shows that they have started to mature. The 11 track record is buoyed by the smart lyrics and confident voice of Petros A.P. Flannes is joined by Raphael Peterson on bass, Joey Orton on keys and Louie Diller on drums. Everyone in the band sings, and the live show is like experiencing the energy of The Artic Monkeys with the harmonies of The Beach Boys.

"We try to make our live show as memorable and exciting as possible," Flannes adds. "We're not the type of band that plays our songs and stands around. We try to get the crowd moving and loving it. We have a ton of fun on stage. That's where we belong."

Now college-aged and armed with a new album of smart, buzzing pop, the five-piece is ready to pull you into their quest. You will turn. You will listen. You will drop everything and make a mess. It won't matter, because you'll only be thinking one thing: Whoa.

WEBSITES: WWW.DIZZYBALLOON.COM WWW.MYSPACE.COM/DIZZYBALLOON

CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 9

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Country Joe's Death Half Red Open Mic w/ special guests, Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 7-9 pm, $6-$10
Ed Thomas Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $17.50-$18.50
High Alamo Blues Roundup Saloon, 5 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Kelly Park Trio Brasil's Jazz Island, 8 pm, $17
Le Jazz Hot Trio vintage gypsy jazz, Spraelarsonine, 8:30 pm, free
Mojo Stew Beckett's, 10 pm, free
Red Rooster dinner jazz w/ guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 pm, free
Streetz and Farah Yoshi's, 8 & 10 pm, $24
The Resort Park Rangers Armando's, 2 pm, $8

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ The Greatest Hits, Sir Lord Von Raven, & Pretty Vanilla, Stork Club, 9:30 pm, $7
Grateful Dead Night "This Band is History," [illegible], CrossLanding, Alameda, 8:30 pm, $6
New Kids on the Block w/ Jabbawockeez, Sleep Team Pavilion at Concord, 7:30 pm, $29.50-$98.50
Rise Against w/ Rancid, Billy Talent, ORACLE Arena, 7:30 pm, $35
The Spaceshots Ted's Irish Sports Pub, 9 pm, free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Badtimes w/ Whiskey Hill, Stony Plough, 9 pm, $11

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Alamo Saigado Biscuits & Blues, 8-11:30 pm, $16
Blog's Night [illegible] blues jam, Skip's Tavern, 8 & 11:30 pm, free
Samsonic Slim Sliding Dolls w/ Head for the Hills, [illegible], Great American Music Hall, 8 pm, $13-$18

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Death [illegible] Babylon Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $25-$77
Kurt Elling: Dedicated to You performing the songs of Coltrane & Hartman, featuring Ernie Watts & the Laurence Hobgood Trio, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $18-$28, kids matinee $6
Rebeka Ayer Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 12:30-1:30 pm, free
Stompy Blues San Francisco-based blues performs live jazz and Death Tao of the Mask, 7:30-11:30 pm, $10

Rock & Pop

Assemble Head in Sunburst Sound w/ Third Eye [illegible], Thomas Tovar, 8 pm, $12
Alamo Angel Cafe du Nord, 8 pm, $10-$12
Old 97's w/ Rhett Miller & Mary Hammond solo, The Fillmore, 9 pm, $25
Pet City 330 Ritch, 10 pm, $10, [illegible] 21 $14
ProPaka w/ Death Sports Resort Ritual, Slim's, 9 pm, $15
Dorla's Red with Parent Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9:30 pm, free
Rabies CD release w/ Little Wings, Mind-surf, WishPaw Shop, 9 pm, $10
The Incognito's Advantage w/ Okay Half-Handed Cloud, Bottom of the Hill, 8 pm, $10
Recycles Inside Doris w/ Death Bonaventure, Big Light, The Independent, 8 pm, $15

FRIDAY 10

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Alamo Death w/ Deborah Paxton, Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $19.50-$19.50
Alamo Thierry and Zydeco Magic plus Zydeco dance lesson at 8:15 pm, Eagles Hall, 9 pm, $16
Bobie Boulder Roundup Saloon, 8 pm, free
The Real Sippin Whiskeys w/ the Family, Lady A and the Knottinggers, Stony Plough, 9 pm, $6
Wilson Wong w/ Bigelow's Treehouse, [illegible] Cafe, 7:30 pm, free

Experimental & Avant Garde

Indian Jewelry w/ Psychic Ills, [illegible], 21 Grand Gallery/Performance Space, 8:30 pm, $8-$10
Transitory Jitterbuktons Wave 964, 21 Grand Gallery/Performance Space, 1 pm, $6-$10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

The Alhambra Valley Band Armando's, 8 pm, $8
Death Revel Anna's Jazz Island, 8 pm, $14
Daly Dominican Kaiser Center Roof Garden, 12 pm, free
Davis Ivey Red Alone Collective Montalvo Arts Center, 7:30 pm, $48-$79.50
free featuring The Spraelarsonine, 8:30 pm, free
Red Rooster dinner jazz w/ guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 9 pm, free
Terrance Kelsam Trio Yoshi's, 8 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Angry Samoans w/ Everything Must Go, the Grimmer, Uptown, 9 pm, $12
Junkyardians Blakes on Telegraph, 7-8:30 pm, free
The Days Bodo Heh-Heh Beckett's, 10 pm, free
Death Detective Red w/ DJ Death Boy, Amber Asylum, Sab-Sab Heartbreakers, & Alaric, Stork Club, 8 pm, $8
Still Time w/ Michael Van, Point Richmond Music, 5:30 pm, free
Regeneration Tour featuring ABC, Wang Chung, Belinda Carlisle, Cutting Crew, & Naked Eyes, Mountain Winery, 6:30 pm, $45-$65
Surgeon w/ Steven Frisbie, Paradise & Serenity Now, Death on Telegraph, 5 pm, $10

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Jetty Kennedy 33 Revolutions Record Shop & Cafe, 7:30 pm, free
Davis Explosion Lloyd-Wegside Park, 7-8:30 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Kenneth Alamo live flamenco guitar, 8 Degrees on Solano, 7:30 pm, free
Ladysmith Black Mambazo Yoshi's, 8 & 10 pm, $35, kids matinee $8
Sambada w/ Tambores Rumberos, Ashkenaz, 9 pm, $11-$13

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Leroy Death & Hot Red Hot Resort [illegible] [illegible], 5 Death 8 & 10 pm, $20

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Death [illegible] Boogie Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $28-$77
Kurt Elling: Dedicated to You performing the songs of Coltrane & Hartman, featuring Ernie Watts & the Laurence Hobgood Trio, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $58-$75, kids matinee $5
Rockie Stone w/ Eggstone Casino, Cafe du Nord, 8 pm, $14-$16

Rock & Pop

Archgoat w/ Crossfall, Thorngrove, Death Comfort, & 01 Bad Metal, Elbo Hub-Rub, 8 pm, $12-$15
City of Boys w/ Diego's Umbrella, Sean Tabor, Great American Music Hall, 8 pm, $14
[illegible] w/ Victor Krummenacher, The Independent, 8 pm, $20-$22
Deltaon 1 Aunt Riot w/ Ayasie, the Surrender, Bottom of the Hill, 9 pm, $10-$12
Mighty Mighty Bosstones w/ [illegible] Blow Skulls, the [illegible], The Fillmore, 7:30 pm, $33
Mike Gibbons w/ Thomas Schoening, Rick Harden, Hotel Utah, 8 pm, $10-$12
Mystic Davis w/ Corrupt Absolute, Madaxe, & Thomas Fleur, G3 Lounge, 8 pm, $6
Shang w/ Steve Handsome & The Birthday Suits, Pine and Battery, Slim's, 8:30 pm, $18.95
Ty Segall w/ Charlie & the Moonhearts, Hemlock Tavern, 8 pm, $7
[illegible] Death & Red Devil Lounge, 8 pm, $10

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Alamo Mkatina w/ Pop Love, Nocturnal Hunters, & more, 1964 Lounge, 8 pm, $16
Body & Soul Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Death Mighta theme Vista-style Latin dancing w/ Tito Romero, Sukay, & Eddy Death, Pena Pachamama, 8:30 pm, $12.50

SATURDAY 11

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Steve Krull blues and boogie, Spraelarsonine, 5:30 pm, free
DeWu's John John Thomas, Bluflogg & Tea Tight Fit Stone Band Everett & Jones, Barbeque, 8 pm, free
Hayward [illegible] City Death Festival featuring Sax Jones, Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones, Phillip Walker, Music Sky Wills, free Dave, Vernon Garrett, Tanoot Courtney, & more, Hayward City Hall Plaza, 11 pm-7 pm, $10-$30
Joe Kaweble Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $18.50-$19.50
Steve Kavka w/ Bellah [illegible], Jeff Ridler & Brothest Whisper, Stork Club, 8 pm, $6
Sugar Mike acoustic Doolittle, Cafe Bonfait, 2-4 pm, free
Wild at Heart Saddle Rack, 7:15 pm, $5

Experimental & Avant-Garde

The Start w/ Botchneon, the Strafe, [illegible], 8 pm, $10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Bayside Jazz w/ **Red Death** Anna's Jazz Island, 8 pm, $14
David Jeffrey Jazz Quartet Alameda Pub, 5:30 pm, $3
Pretty Hearst Spraelarsonine, 8 pm, free
Jenki's 3 Resort 8 pm, free
173 the Last Resort Trio Beckett's, 10 pm, free
Red Alamo dinner jazz w/ guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 5 pm, free
Red Thompson Armando's, 8 pm, $10

Rock & Pop

American Idols Live! Tour featuring Adam Lambert, Alamo Bettery, Death Gokey, Danny Gokey, Kris Allen, Lil Rounds, Matt Giraud, Megan Joy, [illegible] Kaiser, & Scott MacIntyre, ORACLE Arena, 7 pm, $39.50-$68.25
Christopher Fairmen w/ Photophonic, the Racing Clown, Stony Plough, 5 pm, $8
Death Find Afterparty w/ the Crymanteles,

More Listings Online
Get info about hundreds of musical events
at EastBayExpress.com
or m.EastBayExpress.com

Céu
with Patrizia Laquidara
Saturday, July 18, 8PM
Herbst Theatre

São Paulo's Céu has a soft, insinuating voice and a taste for reggae, jazz, samba and R&B filtered through gauzy electronica textures. Her stunning new album, Vagarosa, underscores this dazzling young artist's deepening sophistication and intelligence.

"There's a fresh new face on the Brazilian music scene."
—NPR Morning Edition

free track download now at sfjazz.org

SFJAZZ IN JULY
presented by First Republic

Info, sound clips and tickets at sfjazz.org or call 866-920-5299.

BEER PONG TOURNAMENT!

SATURDAY JULY 11TH

$3 PINTS OF BOONT AMBER ALE ALL DAY!

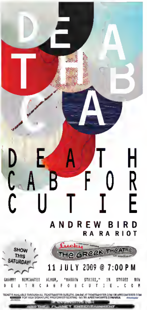
REGISTRATION: NOON-2PM $40/TEAM

TOURNAMENT: 2PM-7PM (TOURNAMENT BEER INCLUDED)

CASH PRIZE FOR 1ST PLACE

STORK CLUB
EAST BAY EXPRESS

WILL BE HELD AT THE STORK CLUB:
2330 TELEGRAPH AVE. OAKLAND (510) 444-6174
FOR MORE INFO: EASTBAYPONG@GMAIL.COM



DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE

ANDREW BIRD
RA RA RIOT

SHOW THIS SATURDAY!

Lucky The Greek Theatre

11 JULY 2009 @ 7:00PM

GRAMMY NOMINATED ALBUM, "NARROW STAIRS," IN STORES NOW
DEATHCABFORCUTIE.COM

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH ALL TICKETMASTER OUTLETS, ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.COM OR APECONCERTS.COM
FOR VISA SIGNATURE PREFERRED SEATING GO TO APECONCERTS.COM/VISA

APECONCERTS.COM
ANOTHER PLANET ENTERTAINMENT

Starry Plough

THU 7/9 9:00 PM $7 **BASSMENT**
WHISKEY HILL

FRI 7/10 9:00 PM $8 **THE REAL SIPPIN WHISKEYS**
THE FAMILY
LADY A AND HER HEELDRAGGERS

SAT 7/11 9:00 PM $8 **CHRISTOPHER FAIRMAN FEAT MATT MCCORD OF CAKE**
POMEGRANATE
THE ROCKING CHAIRS

THU 7/16 9:00 PM $8 **PAM AND JUNI** (BLAKE JOLLY AND PROJECT)
JILL KNIGHT

FRI 7/17 9:00 PM $8 **THE BIG ORGAN TRIO**
ALEX LEE

SAT 7/18 9:00 PM $8 **APPLE PIE HOPES**
THE SWEET DOMINIQUES
THE MONARCHS

SUNDAYS 8:30 PM IRISH MUSIC SESSION W/ SHAY BLACK

TUESDAYS 7:30 PM • FREE OPEN MIC W/ JOAN PEZ

MONDAYS 7:00 PM LESSON, 8:00 PM DANCING / FREE TRADITIONAL IRISH DANCE & CEILI

WEDNESDAYS 8:00 PM • $7 DOOR BERKELEY POETRY SLAM featuring local and touring poets, $150 in cash prizes.

WWW.STARRYPLOUGHPUB.COM

THE EAST BAY'S LONGEST OPERATING NIGHTCLUB

3101 Shattuck
Berkeley 510.841.2082

Ashkenaz
Music & Dance Community Center

WED 7/8 10:00 pm $16 $11 advance — REGGAE **THE ITALS** *Subtle harmony from original vocal trio!* **+ REVIVAL SOUND SYSTEM**

THU 7/9 9:00 pm $8 — GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT **"THIS DEAD IN HISTORY": complete Grateful Dead show from July 9, 1989 + live set by CRASHLANDING**

FRI 7/10 9:00 pm $13 $11 students — AFRO BRAZILIAN FUNK **SAMBADÁ + TAMBORES REMELEXO**

SAT 7/11 9:30 pm $13 $11 advance — AFROBEAT **BABÁ KEN & KOTOJA** 8:00 pm African dance lesson with Comfort Mensah

SUN 7/12 6:30 pm $7 — FOLKDANCE **ISRAELI FOLKDANCE with Allen King**

SUN 7/12 8:00 pm $8-$10 sliding scale — HIP HOP/REGGAE/ART **COMMUNITY ROOTS** A collective event for community activation, empowerment & celebration **Thank You Julius, Ramon Asteria, Able Smart & the Performers, Wheel, Reason**

TUE 7/14 8:30 pm $10 — CAJUN/ZYDECO **TEE FEE SWAMP BOOGIE** 8:00 pm Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson with Cheryl Moskini

7/15 MIGHTY DIAMONDS WITH YELLOW HALL [illegible]
7/16 [illegible]

BERKELEY'S HOME FOR WORLD MUSIC AND DANCE SINCE 1973
1317 San Pablo (at Gilman) (510)525-5054
Or order advance tickets. Information: Ashkenaz.com ALL AGES ALL THE TIME

CD & DVD FACTORY IN FREMONT, CA

[illegible] IS A PHILIPS CERTIFIED MANUFACTURER. WE PROVIDE [illegible] CD / DVD [illegible]. OUR SERVICES INCLUDE CD / DVD REPLICATION, CD-R / DVD-R DUPLICATION / OFFSET PRINTING, [illegible] PLUS A VARIETY OF PACKAGING STYLES!

"We deliver projects FAST & DONE RIGHT"

1-888-663-1656 PICK A REPRESENTATIVE: [illegible]

Alameda's Original Naughty Lava Lounge
2pm - 2am Daily

Lost Weekend Lounge

LOST WEEKEND LOUNGE
[illegible] Ave • Park St.
Alameda [illegible]

BLAKES
NIGHT CLUB
(subterranean level)

WEDNESDAYS
ELECTRO POP ROCKS

THURSDAYS
FLIRT (no cover)
College & good fat only Party
DJ Jays 1 spinning [illegible], Hip Hop, & Electro

FRIDAY July 10th 9pm 18+ $10
Stagnant
Stereo Freakout
Paradise
Serenity Now

SATURDAY July 11th 9pm 18+ $10
A CUTE DEATH CAB AFTERPARTY W/
The Crymwacks
Ferro Flaccio
Paolo Pressetto

MONDAYS
Thirsty Artist Open Mic (full band [illegible] provided)

Blake's Specials
([illegible])
DJs Tuesday-Saturday 10pm-2am
Never a cover • Nightly Drink Specials
HAPPY HOUR
[illegible]

2367 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley • M-F 12p-2a Sat & Sun 1:30-9:00
www.BlakesOnTelegraph.com

PICKS

The Builders and the Butchers

The Builders and the Butchers have a name that you won't soon forget, and a big, unruly sound to match. The members of the quintet were born and raised in Alaska, but didn't discover American roots music until they moved to Portland, Oregon. They embrace gothic country, bluegrass, gospel, blues, and other forms of acoustic mayhem, then Ray Rude kicks it into overdrive pounding on drums and assorted found objects. The band plays horns and Melodica as well as the expected guitars, banjos, and bass while singer Ryan Sollee testifies like a slightly drunken street-corner preacher. The Builders and the Butchers headline the **Bottom of the Hill** (1233 17th St., San Francisco) on Wednesday, July 15. 9 p.m., $10. BottomoftheHill.com — *J. poet*

Cracker

Even though David Lowery has spent the past few years predominantly working with Camper Van Beethoven and its musical mashup of country-psychedelia, Balkan airs, and Tex-Mex, he returns to work with unheralded guitar slinger Johnny Hickman in the more roadworn environs of **Cracker**. That said, there is a strain of quirkiness to Cracker that's manifested itself on its ninth studio album *Sunrise in the Land of Milk and Honey*, a meeting place for late-Seventies-era California punk swagger and No Depression-flavored Americana gilded by guests Adam Duritz, John Doe, and Patterson Hood. Given the homecoming nature of this show (Lowery and Camper root up a little further south in Santa Cruz), Cracker has been known to dip into the canons of Bay Area faves the Flamin' Groovies and the Grateful Dead during their live sets. Cracker and CVB founding member/opening act Victor Krummenacher will be raising the roof on Friday, July 10, at **the Independent** (628 Divisadero St., San Francisco). 9 p.m., $20-$22. IndependentSF.com — *Dave Gil de Rubio*

Festival Opera

It's dueling divas this week, with Berkeley Opera's *The Ballad of Baby Doe* competing for a turn on with **Festival Opera**'s *Turandot*. Not wishing to incur the ice princess' wrath, I'll go with Puccini's final uncompleted opera in Walnut Creek. The largest production that Festival Opera has ever mounted and undoubtedly one of the grandest, the performance stars Canadian soprano Othalie Graham, debut tenor Christopher Taylor (who hopefully will not blast his way through "Nessun dorma"), Rebecca Sjöwall and Kirk Eichelberger. At the **Lesher Center for the Arts** (1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek) July 11 & 14. 8 p.m., $39-$110. FestivalOpera.com or 925-943-SHOW. — *Jason Victor Serinus*

Jonathan Mann

Those who've followed **Jonathan Mann**'s Song a Day campaign may recall his wry critiques of waterboarding, media spin, **Miss California**'s swine flu hysteria, Timothy Geithner (*When I listen to him, all I hear is "blah blah blah"*), and the decimation of newspapers. A former video intern for the *East Bay Express*, Mann is a multifaceted artist capable of shuffling words as easily as he chops videotape. He conceptualizes, shoots, edits, and scores all of his own videos, so that each is its own self-contained work of art. Go back into the *Express* archives and you'll find him speculating on the realness (or falsity) of Miss Cali's boobs, regurgitating the words of John Yoo's torture memos (in song), and quarterbacking a cast of alt weekly journalists in "How to Save Newspapers: The Musical." Now he's one of the most prodigious political songwriters on YouTube. Jonathan Mann performs two sets on Tuesday, July 14 at the **Uptown Night Club** (1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland), as part of a month-long residency. 9 p.m., free. RockCookieBottom.com — *Rachel Swan*

C&C

From Rancid, & Paulo Nebreza, Blakes on Telegraph. 9 pm. $10

Death Cab for Cutie w/ Andrew Bird, Ra Ra Riot. Greek Theatre. 7 pm. $42.50

An Evening w/ [illegible] McFerry Beckett's. 9:30 pm. free

Bike Parade w/ [illegible], Nomad Cafe. 7:30 pm. free

Rockstar Energy Drink Mayhem Festival w/ Marilyn Manson, Slayer, Killswitch Engage, Bullet for My Valentine, Cannibal Corpse, the Black Dahlia Murder, & more. Shoreline Amphitheatre. 2:15 pm. $35-$70

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Engineers, Unrestrained & Possibly Slain. 924 Gilman. 7:30 pm. $10

Soul Hustler w/ Midnight, Man's Red Fire, & More. Stork Club. 9 pm. $7

[illegible] Mountain Winery. 7:30 pm. $46-$48.50

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

UnderFolk Entertainment [illegible] Carnival. 1 pm. free

Love [illegible] of Philadelphia w/ the O'Jays, Russell Thompkins Jr. & the New Stylistics, Jerry Butler, Harold Melvin's Bluenotes, the Intruders, Eddie Holman, the Jones Girls, & the [illegible]. Sleep Train Pavilion at Concord. 7 pm. $25-$79.50

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible] La Peña Cultural Center. 8 pm. $10-$12

Babá Ken & Kotoja plus African dance lesson at 8 p.m. Ashkenaz. 9:30 pm. $13 students, $11

[illegible] Grace North Church. 8 pm. $16-$20, students/seniors $5-$10

Ladysmith Black Mambazo Yoshi's. 8 & 10 pm. $18-$35. Kids matinee $5

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible], the [illegible] Embers. El Rio. 3 pm. $8-$10

[illegible] [illegible], 8 & 10 pm. $22

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] live concert. [illegible] Valley Ministry. 8:30 pm. $15-$17

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Jason Reinhardt. Bottom of the Hill. 10 pm. $10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible] of pop-culture figures as [illegible] Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming. Club Fugazi. 7 & 10 pm. $25-$77

Kurt Elling: Dedicated to You performing the songs of Coltrane & Hartman, featuring Ernie Watts & the Laurence Hobgood Trio. Yoshi's San Francisco. 8 & 10 pm. $18-$97. Kids matinee $5

Rock & Pop

The Black Pages Johnny Foley's Irish House. 8 pm. free

[illegible] w/ [illegible]. The Independent. 9 pm. $13-$15

[illegible] w/ Crosslanding, [illegible], & [illegible]. 9 pm. $7

Rock & Roll Happy Hour Show w/ [illegible] bands. Thee Parkside. 3-8 pm. free

Roots Di w/ APOSE, the Fresh & Onlys, El Rio, 8:30 pm, $7

Lace the Retinae w/ the Gun & Bad Slaves, Polka, Great American Music Hall, 8 pm, $20

Lydia Pense & Cold Blood w/ Big Shell, PlaChic Theatre, 8:30 & 10 pm, $25-$30

Showcase: A Tribute to the King of Pop w/ Zoo With No Hands, DJ Hot Pistol Slam's, 8 pm, $15

Ulysses and the Stealthsnacks Red Devil Lounge, 9 pm, $12

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

J Valentine's Birthday Party w/ Lloyd Luckett, Tank, & Big Nen, Showcase, 8 pm, $35-$50

SUNDAY 12

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Americana Unplugged live bluegrass, Americana & old-time w/ rotating artists, Ashkenaz, 5 pm, free

Group Campbell & Friends Bondage Saloon, 8 pm, free

Bondage Brewer City Blues Florida featuring "Jake Jones, Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones, Philip Walker, Blues Boy Willie, Nat Dove, Wendi Garrett, Tomcat Courtney & more, Hayward City Hall Plaza, 11 am-7 pm, $40-$30

Jack Williams Freight & Salvage, 4 pm, $18.50-$20.50

Los Drugos Lives Music featuring Ian Gutas, Mark Silverman, Manul Suarez, Blackberry, Bernie Gilbert & more, La Peña Cultural Center, 7:30 pm, $12 advance/$15 door

Paul & Taylor & the Monitors Mountain Boys Nomad Cafe, 11 am-1 pm, free

Rhythm Rotama Pete's Showcase, 5 pm, free

Showcase: Irish Music with Shay Black Starry Plough, 8 pm, sliding scale

Classical & Opera

Schraubenfest Summer Salonce Franklin Square Nine Box, 2-4 pm, free

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Rydie Cooley w/ Ryan Dyer, Dryer Henson, Zen, 21 Grand Gallery/Performance Space, 8 pm, $6-$10

Gospel & Vocal

Golden Gate International Children's Choral Festival festival preview concert featuring Mahmay Pipeline Nomens, San Leandro Library, 2 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Glen Harris & Jenny Showcase Anna's Jazz Island, 8 pm, $12

Jim Showcase Jazz Quartet Brazil & contemporary jazz, Coffee Bar, 3-6 pm, free

Hinaych's Phoenix Ebony's Lounge & Jazz Jam Zacco's Waterfront Restaurant and Nightclub, 5-10 pm, $10

Rhythm Brothers old-school blues, Pete's Restaurant, [illegible] pm, free

Brewer Midnight followed by open jam session, Oakland Public Library, Golden Gate Branch, 3-4 pm, free

Soul-Jazz Sundays featuring the Howard Wiley Organ Trio, Jupiter Lounge, 6 pm, $5 donation

Sunday Hang & Jam Anna's Jazz Island, 3 pm, $5

Sonance Brewer Trio Mezzo, 6:30-9 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Angry Samoans w/ DD Kids and the TCP Band, the Generators, Troublemaker, Shoveling, Grey & Barn City Saints, 924 Gilman, 8:30 pm, $10

Mile and the Remains jam session, Silver Shell, 6-10 pm, free

Festival of the Drummers featuring Kenny Pumpkins and the All Show Up Reunion, Bobby Harlan Hernandez, Blues & Joanna, State Mind-Fi, the New Cyclotrons, Sinalbathe, the Happy Dams, & DJ Moto, Stork Club, 8 pm, $6

The Pyrate Fuzz barbecue starts at 4 p.m. & music starts at 6 p.m. w/ four-to-six bands, John Patrick's, 8 pm, $5

Spearmaster Brewer's, 10 pm, free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Community Jams featuring Thank You Ibhut, Renee Avens, Kala Mark & the Performers, Blues & Reason, Ashkenaz, 8 pm, $6-$15

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Domingo de Cheni Afro-Cuban rumba potluck & dance party, Café Showcase, 3:30-6:30 pm, free

Ladysmith Black Mambazo Yoshi's, 2 & 7 pm, $68-$35 'with' Rotama $95

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Rugh Harvey and Rotama Blues play jam, Gap's Tavern, 6:30 & 11:30 pm, free

Brewer Plough and Stars, 8 pm, free

Classical & Opera

Sharpane Burns on piano for Sunday champagne brewer, Top of the Mark, 10 am-2 pm, $60 for Brewer plus gratuity and tax

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Upset the Rhythm Of Showcase featuring Fool Village, Caveki, Lady-Bragonis, Jeane Sontance, Panda, TRS, NT the Unsed, & Former Brewer The Lab, 5 pm, $8

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Brunch Rotama Delphine Club Fugazi, 2 & 5 pm, $25-$47

Kurt Elling Dedicated to You performing the songs of Coltrane & Hartman, featuring Ernie Watts & the Laurence Hobgood Trio, Yoshi's San Francisco, 2 & 7 pm, $35-$25, fall, & dinner $5

Marc Labonne & Friends featuring Andrew Speight, Sam Grellerthemic, & Mark Elderman, Bogaart Saloon, 4:30-8:30 pm, $6

Rock & Pop

Blues the Music Industry w/ Laura Brewer sax and the Cans, Herd Girls, Brewer of the Hill, 8 pm, $6

Sketchsmith w/ Saviours, Deep Them, At The Arms, & DJ Rob Metal, Thee Parkside, 8 pm, $10-$12

Terry Sonstone Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 pm, free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Big Sam's Funky Nation w/ Rauceum, The Independent, 8 pm, $18

Bee w/ Chico DeBarge, The Fillmore, 9 pm, $60

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Georges Lammam Ensemble music and dance from the Middle East, Peña Pachamama, 8:30 pm, $10

"Salsa Sundays" Cigar, 9 pm, $8

MONDAY 13

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Bluegrass Jam Baja Taqueria, 8:30 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

New West Guitar Group Yoshi's, 8 pm, $16

Uptown "Brewer Rubber" Uptown, 9 pm, $5

Rock & Pop

Tori Amos Paramount Brewer, 8 pm, $39.50-$55

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Pedro Tango Argentine tango, Caffè Trieste, 7-9 pm, free

san francisco
1330 Fillmore Street
San Francisco, California
94115

Yoshi's
jazz club and japanese restaurant
YOSHIS.COM

oakland
510 Embarcadero West
Oakland, California
94607

Top 100 Bay Area Restaurants 2009 and Top 10 New Restaurants 2008 – San Francisco Chronicle

tonight! Wed, July 8
THE CRUSHING SPIRAL ENSEMBLE

this weekend! Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun, July 9, 10, 11, 12
KURT ELLING
"DEDICATED TO YOU"
ELLING SINGS COLTRANE/HARTMAN
featuring Ernie Watts
& The Laurence Hobgood Trio

next week! Mon, July 13
Open Dance Floor
CHICAGO AFROBEAT PROJECT

next week! Tues, July 14
SELDOM SCENE
with The Tenders

Wed, July 15
Ancient Music Urban
GOKH-BI SYSTEM

Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun, July 16, 17, 18, 19
Dazzling Jazz-Pop Vocalist and TV Star
RENEE OLSTEAD
and Very Special Guest and Hometown Favorite
PAULA WEST

Mon, July 20
CONTEMPORARY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Tues, July 21
LEAH TYSSE

Wed, July 22
A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO BUDDY MONTGOMERY
featuring Marlena Shaw, Mary Stallings
John Handy, David Hazeltine
Brian Lynch, Jeff Chambers and many more!

Late Night Live! Every Tuesday

this week! Wed, Thurs, July 8, 9
STRUNZ & FARAH

this weekend! Fri, Sat, Sun, July 10, 11, 12
LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO

next week! Mon, July 13
NEW WEST GUITAR GROUP

next week! Tues, July 14
GRUPO FALSO BAIANO

Wed, July 15
KBLX Presents
BENJIE ROSS
with Special Guest
Mikki Thomas (KBLX Morning Show)
and Arlington Hometic Quartet
with Valinda Love

Thurs, July 16
CHARMAINE CLAMOR
Queen of Jazzipino
with guest vocalist Mike David
Special Kickoff Concert for
the 2nd annual SF Filipino American Jazz Festival

Fri, Sat, Sun, July 17, 18, 19
LARRY HARLOW
& THE LATIN LEGENDS
with Bobby Sanabria, Fitches Vienet, Lewis Kahn
Chocolate Cornet, Louie Rosario and more!

Mon, July 20
12th Annual
EAST BAY BLUES REVUE BENEFIT

Tues, July 21
AARON BLUMENFELD

Wed, July 22
SHAYNEE RAINBOLT
& HER FOUR TROMBONE BAND

Now Reserve Your Seats at Yoshi's San Francisco!

Get Tickets at YOSHIS.COM / the venue box office / 415 655 5600 / 510 238 9200

Gibson

NEW AT AMOEBA!

NEED CASH? WE BUY DVDS!
PLUS CDS, LPS, & VIDEO GAMES!
We pay the most cash & offer the highest trade credit you'll find anywhere. Our buy counter is open Monday - Saturday 10:30am-10pm, Sunday 11am-9pm! We love large collections & make house calls for large buys! Call us or visit AMOEBA.COM for more info!

SUMMER FUN CONTEST!
Enter to win tons of cool stuff at Amoeba Berkeley, including:
- Guitar Hero Complete Band Kit
- DVDs of The Clash, Heart, John Mayer, & more
- Gift certificates from the Missouri Lounge, Spice Monkey Café & Restaurant, & Moe's Books
Contest ends 7/31

POP VOCALS CD BLOWOUT!
Most titles $5.99 or less!!
New titles added daily.
(Offer good at Amoeba Berkeley only.)

STOREWIDE SUPER SALE!!!
For a limited time only...
Any SIX $1.00 Red Tag Clearance CDs For Only $5!!
(Offer valid at Amoeba Berkeley only.
Not valid with any coupons or other discount offers.)

AMOEBA MUSIC

BERKELEY
2455 TELEGRAPH AVENUE
(510) 549-1125

SAN FRANCISCO
1855 HAIGHT STREET • (415) 831-1200

WWW.AMOEBA.COM

LIVE SHOWS CALENDAR
All shows are free & all ages welcome! Check Amoeba.com for complete listings!

@ SAN FRANCISCO:

SATURDAY • JULY 11 • 2PM
MIDNIGHT MASS & PEACHES CHRIST
PRESENT A SIGNING WITH:
LINDA BLAIR

WEDNESDAY • JULY 15 • 6PM
PINN MOUNTAIN

MONDAY • JULY 20 • 6PM
KANON WAKESHIMA

@ BERKELEY:
No shows this week. Check amoeba.com for upcoming live shows!

AMOEBA.COM & NEWSLETTER
Sign up on Amoeba.com & be first to get info on special deals, contests, events, in-store performances, free downloads & much, much more!!

LIVE WEBCASTS @ AMOEBA.COM

The REGENCY BALLROOM

CLUTCH
JULY 21

10 BANDS FOR $10
MADBALL
POISON THE WELL
BANE
TERROR
THIS IS HELL
JULY 31

ASHER ROTH
KID CUDI
JULY 24

JAPANESE ROCK DUO!
VAMPS
JULY 25

GLASVEGAS
JULY 27

KOTTONMOUTH KINGS
JULY 28

THE WARFIELD
THEWARFIELDTHEATRE.COM

BUD LIGHT CONCERT SERIES

GOLDENVOICE
GOLDENVOICE.COM • TICKETMASTER.COM • CHARGE: 1 800 745 3000
WARFIELD BOX OFFICE OPEN SUNDAYS 10AM - 4PM
ticketmaster

FOXES
Enjoy Tusker Beer!
171 W Tennyson Road

Closed Every Tuesday

Wednesday
Slippery Wet Wednesday
Open Mic & Poetry • No Cover

Thursday
Face Value Productions
Old Skool R&B HipHop • Ladies Night
Drink Discounts, Free Pool for Ladies
$5 Cover 10pm - 1:30am

Friday
DJ SupaK
R&B HipHop • $5 Cover 10pm-1:30am

Saturday
AD Productions w/ Hoodstyle DJ's
$5 Cover 10pm-1:30am

Jupiter
2181 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 843.8277
www.jupiterbeer.com • no cover

SELECTOR: DJ DILON w/ VINCI THUR 7/9

TERRENCE BREWER TRIO FRI 7/10
Guitarist Terrence Brewer continues to ride a wave of both regional and national acclaim for his all original albums: The Calling, Volume One and Volume Two (2006) and QuintEssential (2008).
www.terrencebrewer.com

JOSHI'Z 3 SAT 7/11

AMERICANA UNPLUGGED: THE BACKYARD PARTY BOYS SUN 7/12
Their unique brand of old-time music mixing in influences from bluegrass, blues, Hawaiian, folk, and other acoustic traditions makes every gig feel like a party.
www.myspace.com/backyardpartyboys

MOJO STEW WED 7/15
Mojo Stew mixes jazz, funk, soul, rock and blues for an eclectic and tasty mix of musical styles. Influenced greatly by modern jazz/funk bands, they also draw on traditional jazz and rock/blues influences.
www.myspace.com/mojostewmusic

This Week's Featured Beers

TURN YOUR RADIO ON

The best in freeform & alternative programming broadcasting from UC Berkeley for over 45 years

Listen at 90.7FM or online at kalx.berkeley.edu

KALX
90.7 FM BERKELEY

The Uptown OAKLAND

Angry Samoans
EVERYTHING MUST GO • THE GRANNIES
FRIDAY JULY 10TH 9PM $10

theSTART
NORMANDIE
the struts
SATURDAY, JULY 11TH • 9PM • $10

DOOR 9PM NO COVER! PIRATE CAT RADIO LOCALS ONLY LIVE SHOWCASE
DIG THIS!
BLACK CHORUS, KEN FLAGG, GHOST ECHOES

DOOR 9PM NO COVER!
AUDIO WHORE
WITH DJ JEN SCRANDE

7/17 DOOR 9PM $10
JOHNNY HOOTROCK
THE TABALTIX, THE MEMPHIS MURDER MEN

THE BAYLIENS

7/24 DOOR 9PM $12/$15
WAYNE HANCOCK

1928 TELEGRAPH AVE., OAKLAND
(510) 451-8100
WWW.UPTOWNNIGHTCLUB.COM

C&C

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Rupi Harvey Unplugged Stoy't Tavern, 7:30 & 10:30 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Gift Big Band w/ Kenny Washington, Jacket Pearl's, 8 & 10 pm, $10-$15
Jazz Mondays Polo Parksarene, 5 pm, $10

Rock & Pop

Maude w/ Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free
In the Red w/ Snakeflower 2, Blunt, Elbo Room, 9 pm, $8
Children w/ Pit or Pat, Yoshi's American Beaver Hall, 5 pm, $15
The Veils w/ Foreign Born, David Gels, Bottom of the Hill, 9 pm, $10-$12
Howard W. Wet Wildlife Dance w/ Blunt, Moonshine Black, Slim's, 8 pm, $15

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Chicago Afrobeat Project open dance floor, Yoshi's San Francisco, 5 pm, $10

TUESDAY 14

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Country Western Dance Night w/ Howard Weber's Bar & Grill, 7:30-11 pm, free
Howard Healy Peter's Restaurant, 7:30-9 pm, free
Sylvia Brown & Tonne Krala Jullo's Coffee & Tea Garden, 7-9 pm, free
The Fee Swamp Boogie plus Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson at 8 pm, Ashkenaz, 8:30 pm, $15

Gospel & Vocal

Golden Gate International Children's Choral Festival open ceremonies and concert featuring Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir, guests, Mormon Interstake Music ... Church, 3 pm, free
Seven Kennedy Chorus community ... w/ world music repertoire, open to all ages and experience levels, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 7:30 pm, $12

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Eddie Puderwuh Duo w/ Ross Gualco, Cafe Rouge, 5:30 pm, free
Houda Lucia Sextet Yoshi Sypsay Blues, 6:30 pm, free
Howard Holt & Renee Doub-Anthony Cocktails Hotel, 7-11 pm, free
Jazz Rainbow Café Teatro, 7-8 pm, free
Jazzschool Tuesdays Jupiter, 8 pm, free
Red Dildas Bar Alley, 9 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Green Traveler w/ Big Head Gate & the Monsters, Mountain Winery, 7:30 pm, $45-$64.50
Jonathan Rowe performing and solo, Uptown, 8 pm, free
Homebuilt w/ guests, Stork Club, 9 pm, $5

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

JazFest party/mixer ... gourmet buffet, live entertainment, & New Orleans Hurricane, Howard Restaurant and Cabaret, 6 pm, $40

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Grupo Fuego Obama Yoshi's, 5 pm, $15

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Fat Tuesday w/ Howard & Blunt, 8-11:30 pm, $15
Festival Noble w/ Mattullins, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $15

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Jazz Martin Trio Bruno's, 5 pm, $5
Open Jam Tem w/ The Blue Nightman Trio Cafeteia Carnitas, 7:30-11:30 pm, free
Shaunip Jones Verdi Cafe, 8:30 pm, $17

Rock & Pop

Abigail Williams w/ Gargarhope, S.W.M.A.A.T.S., & Bi Boo Metal, Thee Parkside, 8 pm, $13-$18
Bicycle Film Festival featuring Blonde Redhead, The Independent, 8 pm, $25
Oboja Amaneon Park Chalet, Shadow 6:30 pm, free
Cute Iron Years w/ Children Moment, Tye Bottom of the Hill, 9 pm, $8
Hot & Alex Wolff The Fillmore, 7 pm, $28
Howard Portmore's Chamic Band w/ Hey Charlie, Cafe du Nord, 9:30 pm, $10-$12
Pines of Light w/ Iron Witch, Pigs, The Knockout, 10 pm, free
Rock 'n' Gospel Nicole Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9:30 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Forro Brasileiro Elbo Room, 9 pm, $7

WEDNESDAY 15

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Old Time Fiddle Freight & Salvage, 5 pm, $15.50-$18.50
Gato Kayo Amanda's, 8 pm, $6
Leaving Brothers bluegrass and bluegrass, Albatross Pub, 8 pm, free

Gospel & Vocal

Golden Gate International Children's Choral Festival featuring Mississippi Boychoir, Fugaaf, SingorMain, & Ecco Choir of PSBCC, Unitarian Universalist Church, 7:30 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Ellen Hoffman's Mazamete Anna's Jazz Island, 8 pm, $15
Mojo Gone Jupiter, 8 pm, free
Red Nicole Jesses jazz w/ guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 9 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Tears for David Mountain Winery, 7:30 pm, $65-$79.50

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Boogie Dust w/ special guests Mike Howard, Arlington Brothers Quartet, & Valinda Love, Yoshi's, 8 pm, $15

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Fito Howard Oakland City Center, 12-1 pm, free
Mazamete plus dance lesson, Shattuck Down Low, 9 pm, $10, Children $8
the Mighty Diamonds w/ Tonne Roll Dub Squad, Yawe & Ring Band, Ashkenaz, 9:30 pm, $16-$18

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Grove Obama Biscuits & Blues, 8 & 11:30 pm, $15
Steve Taylor-Ramirez Plough and Stars, 9 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Music Howard Dolphin Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $25-$77
Ultra Dolphins and the Obama Combo Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 pm, $10

Rock & Pop

Abigail Brothers w/ Gatekeeper, S.W.M.A.A.T.S., & Bi Boo Metal, Thee Parkside, 8 pm, $13-$15
Howard Film Festival featuring Blonde Redhead, The Independent, 8 pm, $25
The Dodgers and the Sideline w/ Blesis, the Ferocious Few, Bottom of the Hill, 9 pm, $10
Edition w/ Crown Blood, 440 Peel Lounge, 9 pm, $12-$15
Eric Mazamete w/ Anya Morina, Slim's, 8:30 pm, $20
Laura Veirs Cafe du Nord, 8:30 pm, $12
Lazer Sword w/ Sarap, DJ Dials, Elbo Room, 9 pm, $8-$10
The American Parlor's Big Dance Band w/ Tiny Television, Four Year Bender, Great American Music Hall, 8 pm, $12
So Many Dynamos w/ Cast Spells, David Kamus Trio, Hemlock Tavern, 9 pm, $8
The Blonde Dance w/ Spirits of the Red City, Passenger and Pilot, Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $8

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Gold-N System Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 pm, $20
Howard Glas w/ DJs Sears Oz & Western Green, Bissap Baobab, 9 pm, $10

Saviours play 924 Gilman on 7/11

Come Up. Cool Down.
$49 Sun-Thurs
$69 Fri-Sat
Includes 2 For 1 Buffet
June 26-July 30, 2009
Excludes 7/4 & 7/9-10 • Subject To Availability • Some Restrictions Apply
JOHN ASCUAGA'S Nugget
RENO
800-648-1177 • JANUGGET.COM

Keep it Local!

Eat, Drink, Shop... and Bank

Keep More Money in your Own Pocket and in the Local Economy

OneCalifornia Bank is a community bank focused on serving East Bay & Bay Area individuals, small businesses, and non-profits

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

OneCalifornia Foundation helps you shop with local independent businesses and artists at www.oaklandunwrapped.org

Come visit us at 1430 Webster St. in downtown Oakland
510.550 8400 www onecalbank com

oakland grown OneCalifornia Bank is a proud sponsor of the Shop Oakland Grown campaign

DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 9

EAST BAY

Audio Whore w/ DJ [illegible] spinning '50s and '60s soul, funk, garage rock, & [illegible]. Uptown. 9 pm, free

College Night w/ DJ and VJ Joe G. spinning hip-hop, R&B, dancehall, & Top 40. White Horse Inn. 9 pm, [illegible]

College Night [illegible] hip-hop, club hits, & Top 40 for college [illegible] ID required. Downtown Telegraph, 9:30 pm, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Luka's Taproom & [illegible]

DJ Saadi spinning [illegible]. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 pm, free

DJ Israel spinning downtempo, funk, & [illegible]. 6 pm, free

Family Fever w/ DJs [illegible] spinning reggae, African, [illegible], boogie, disco, & funk. Kitty's. 7 pm, free

Tasty ladies' night w/ DJ [illegible] spinning hip-hop & R&B. [illegible]. 9 pm, $12

Thursday Throwdown w/ DJ [illegible] spinning hip-hop classics, '80s, [illegible], house, [illegible], funk, & soul. [illegible]. [illegible] pm, free

FRIDAY 10

EAST BAY

[illegible] Fridays w/ hip-hop DJs spinning R&B, [illegible], & club classics. Anamoná Bar & Grill. 11 pm, $10, [illegible]

Latin Explosion DJ [illegible] spins cumbia, salsa, merengue, house, Spanish pop, & [illegible]. Bar & [illegible]. $12

Mighty Kiss DJs [illegible] & [illegible] spin reggae, dancehall, & hip-hop. [illegible]. $15

[illegible] Tropical Lounge. DJ [illegible] spinning Cuban music & Latin jazz. [illegible]. free

[illegible] DJ Joe [illegible] spins funk, Latin, & dub. [illegible]. 10 pm, free

Retro-[illegible] [illegible] '80s pop night. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 pm, free

Sultry Fridays DJ [illegible] spin R&B & soul. [illegible]. 9 pm, $8

More Listings Online

Get info about hundreds of musical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

SAN FRANCISCO

Audio [illegible] w/ DJs [illegible]. 10 pm, [illegible]

[illegible] Party w/ DJs [illegible]. 9 pm, $10

SATURDAY 11

EAST BAY

Angel [illegible] DJs [illegible], & guests spin hip-hop, reggae, & dancehall. [illegible]. 9 pm, $15

[illegible] Maxwell's DJs [illegible] & Soul [illegible] spin R&B, [illegible] funk, reggae, & hip-hop. Maxwell's Lounge. 8 pm, [illegible]

Country Saturdays [illegible] & house at midnight. Club 1220. 8:30 pm-midnight, [illegible]

[illegible] & Sexy Affair w/ [illegible] spinning reggae, soca, & hip-hop. Caribbean City. 9 pm, $15

Magic Milk Cruise DJ [illegible] & guests [illegible]. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 pm, free

[illegible] Oakland [illegible] spin [illegible] funk. Luka's Taproom & Lounge. 9 pm, $10

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] Tropical w/ Totally [illegible]. 10 pm, $10

SUNDAY 12

EAST BAY

DJ [illegible] spinning rock, [illegible], & house. [illegible]. 9:30 pm, $5

DJs [illegible] & [illegible] spin R&B, old-school. Kitty's. 7 pm, free

Speakeasy Sunday DJ [illegible] big band, jump blues, & more. Easy Lounge. 8 pm, free

King of Kings DJ [illegible] and guests spin reggae, dancehall, roots, & lovers' rock. [illegible]. 9 pm, [illegible]

Soul-Full w/ DJ [illegible] spinning soul, hip-hop, reggae, funk, & house. Luka's Taproom & Lounge. 9 pm, free

Sunday [illegible] w/ DJs spinning funk, [illegible], and [illegible] house. [illegible] Lounge. 8 pm, free

[illegible] Soul Sundays DJs spin [illegible] & R&B [illegible]. Anamoná Bar & Grill. 7 pm, [illegible]

Spinning Shift DJ [illegible] spins [illegible] & old-school for bar & restaurant staff. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 pm, free

SAN FRANCISCO

Bubbling Fire DJ [illegible] & guests spin reggae & [illegible]. Underground SF. [illegible] pm, $5

Rare Bird DJ [illegible] & guests spin rare jazz, soul, & funk. [illegible]. free

[illegible] Sunday w/ DJ [illegible]. 10 pm, [illegible]

[illegible] Sundays restaurant/bar/hotel industry night w/ DJ [illegible] spinning Top 40 mash-ups. [illegible]. 9 pm, free

Super Soul Sunday! w/ DJ [illegible] classics. [illegible]. 8 pm, $5

MONDAY 13

EAST BAY

The 3-Day Weekend w/ DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible] classics. Luka's Taproom & [illegible]. 9 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning dub, ska, & soul. Easy Lounge. 9 pm, free

[illegible] Mondays DJs [illegible] & [illegible] spin reggae & dancehall. Kitty's. 9 pm, free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 2 a.m., Club 1220. [illegible] pm-2 am, free

[illegible] [illegible] DJs, plus karaoke, competition. [illegible]. 8 pm, TBA

Mystery Night guest DJs spin hip-hop, new wave, & [illegible]. Ruby Room. 10 pm-2 am, free

Underground Hip-Hop psycho '60s & promo '70s music. [illegible]. 10 pm-2 am, free

[illegible] Kung Out? w/ DJ [illegible] spinning club and soft hits, [illegible] classics. [illegible] Lounge. 10 pm, free

Spinning Shift DJ [illegible] spins rarities & old-school for bar & restaurant staff. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 pm, free

PICK

Clipd Beaks

21 Grand (416 25th St., Oakland) might be the Bay Area's longest running weirdo music venue, whether they're hosting the guy who did the soundtrack to *A Scanner Darkly* or some obscure local band who'll rip your face off. It appears their permit hassles with the City of Oakland are over because Friday, July 10's show falls somewhere in the middle with "psychedelic progressive freestyle" goodness from six-year-old electronic noise trio **Clipd Beaks**. Think: molten trance drones, the death of structure, and general vocal mumbling. Uncompromising! They play with the ballsy [illegible] *Indian Jewelry* and New York's *Psychic Ills* in an all-ages capacity. 8:30 p.m., sliding scale. 21Grand.org. — *David Downs*

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] Club Ker. 9:30 pm, $3 before 10 p.m., $5

DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible], old classics, & downtempo. Swig Bar. 9 pm, free

[illegible] w/ hip-hop DJs [illegible]. The Knockout. 10 pm, free

[illegible] classic soul, funk, hip-hop, reggae, [illegible], & more. Little [illegible]. 10 pm, $3

[illegible] Rock Slideshow w/ DJ [illegible] & [illegible]. 10 pm, free

Radical Vinyl w/ DJ [illegible] spinning an eclectic mix of vinyl. [illegible]. 9 pm-1 am, $2

Split Weekend w/ DJs [illegible] spinning funk, soul, hip-hop, '60s boogie, jazz, Latin, [illegible]. 11 pm, free

TUESDAY 14

EAST BAY

Country Music Night plus line dancing. Club 1220. 6 pm, free

DJ [illegible] Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning rock, indie, punk, new wave, & more. [illegible]. 10 pm, free

DJ Joe [illegible] spinning salsa & Latin funk. Easy Lounge. 9 pm, free

DJ [illegible] w/ DJs [illegible] spinning hip-hop and club classics. Kitty's. 9:30 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning punk. Lost Weekend Lounge. 9 pm-2 am, free

[illegible] DJs [illegible], & [illegible] spin reggae, dancehall, & classics. Luka's Taproom & Lounge. 9 pm, free

[illegible] Kung Out? w/ DJs spinning [illegible], house, & [illegible]. Ruby Room. 10 pm, free

WEDNESDAY 15

EAST BAY

[illegible] Wednesdays DJ [illegible] & hip-hop guests spin [illegible], reggae, & hip-hop. [illegible]. Luka's Taproom & Lounge. 9 pm, free

SAVAGE LOVE

WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE HOT GUY IN PARIS

Plus thoughts on squirters, supporting Obama, and a raid at a gay bar in Texas

By Dan Savage

Here's a hypothetical for you. You've been corresponding with a handsome young man who lives in Paris. You know him through a friend in France, and your friend has vetted him. He has offered to pay more than half of your airfare so that you can visit him in Paris. You've spoken to him on the phone, and hearing him speak to you in French makes your knees weak.

On the one hand, you can't really afford it — and although he's agreed to help you pay, you feel guilty for accepting his help. You're also not working, and once you get a job you won't be able to go. You live with your parents, and you don't know how you'd explain taking a trip when you're not working and technically broke. But if your parents disappeared into thin air, you wouldn't hesitate to go. The trip also might turn out to be a crushing disappointment and a huge mistake. On the other hand, you might be passing up the romantic adventure of a lifetime. And he's just so ... pretty. Do you go?

Anxious Straight Girl

P.S. I am attaching his photo so you can see why I'm considering this. I trust you will not publish it?

You can trust me not to publish the picture, ASG, but anyone who wants an idea of what this boy looks like is invited to quickly Google "Gaspard Ulliel," turn those blue eyes brown, take a moment to masturbate, and then come back and finish reading this week's column.

Okay, ASG, hypothetically ... I go.

I lie to my parents. I tell them a friend — someone they know, someone who'll lie for me — lent me the money and I'm going to go spend a few days in France with my friend (the same one who vetted this boy) before I land a job.

But ...

I wouldn't be going at all if a friend hadn't vetted this guy. And I wouldn't go if I didn't have somewhere to stay besides this boy's place. And I would treat our first meeting like any first meeting with a stranger I'd met online: That first meeting would be in a public place. I would let someone know where I was going and who I was with, and it wouldn't be an open-ended date, i.e., I would see him for lunch and have ironclad plans to hang out with other friends later that same afternoon.

I would also go to France with my bullshit detector fully charged. This guy is damn good-looking, for sure, but it's not like there's a shortage of good-looking French girls. So why is he pining away for an American girl he might never meet — I'm a girl in this hypothetical, right? — with so much French pussy at his disposal? Maybe he's so smitten with me that French pussy won't do ... or ... maybe he's a socially maladjusted lunatic who can't get laid despite his looks. I would be tempted to conclude that it's the former, of course, but I would remind myself not to overestimate my awesomeness and to be on the lookout for signs of social retardation once I met the dude.

And finally, ASG, if I went to France and didn't hit it off with this boy, I would thank my lucky stars that my crush lived in Paris, France, and not Paris, Texas, and enjoy the trip — and any other French boys — regardless.

I'm a 28-year-old heterosexual male with a politics question and a sex question. I've seen you on television talking about the shitty job President Obama has done on gay rights so far. My question is this: Obama said he was against gay marriage during the campaign. How could you support a candidate who sees your love as worth less than heterosexual love? I'm surprised that you were such an ardent supporter of someone who doesn't believe that gay and lesbian couples deserve to marry. If I were gay, I'd automatically dismiss any candidate who didn't support full equality for gay people. Hell, I'm straight and I'm pretty close to doing that.

Also, I recently slept with a woman who squirted when she came. She demanded that I pull out when she began to come. Is there some reason women who squirt don't want a dick inside them when they do? Curious if you had any insight on this.

Love the column.

Pro Equality And Chicks Ejaculating

P.S. Here's a pic. Thought it might persuade you to answer my questions. Feel free to share it with your readers.

Thanks for allowing me to share your ass with my readers, PEACE, because if any back side deserves a worldwide audience, it's yours. To see the photo, dear readers, go to www.thestranger.com/savage/peacebutt. Now ...

During the Democratic primary, I was fond of saying that I was "for Clinton or Obama or both." So I wouldn't describe myself as an ardent Obama supporter. But I was pretty in the tank by the time of the election. And like most gays and lesbians, I've been severely disappointed by President Obama's refusal to move on the promises that candidate Obama made to the gay and lesbian community. I was willing to be patient, though — until the Obama administration compared gay marriage to incest and child rape when arguing for the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act. That's when I blew my big gay stack.

But that doesn't answer your question: Why would I support a candidate who views my love for my partner as somehow inferior to his love for his wife? Because I'm not an idiot. Because I'm not a single-issue voter and Obama was better on other issues — on gay issues and every other issue — than his Republican opponent. Because politics is about the art of the possible and I'm sorry, Dennis Kucinich just wasn't possible.

As for the squirting ladies: I talked to three, and all three said that the contractions they experience as they ejaculate are so intense — and so "outward directed," in the words of one — that they want everything out at once, their come and anything else that should happen to be in 'em when they blow their loads. Added one of my friends: "He had a squirter right there in front of him — why didn't he ask her? She has some insight on it, no doubt." ●

Download my podcast at TheStranger.com/savage
mail@savagelove.net

BEST HAPPY HOUR IN THE EAST BAY!
KING TSIN
MON Beer + Shot $6
TUES Double Delight: 2 for 1 Wells
WED All Day Happy Hour
THURS College Night: 1st Drink $1
FRI $5 Shot- You call it!
SAT All Infused Cocktails $6
SUN $8 Budweiser Pitcher
RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

The Trappist
Belgian & Specialty Beer
Back Room Now Open
22 taps · over 120 bottles
460 8th Street Oakland 510.238.8900
www.thetrappist.com

1-2-3-4 GO! RECORDS
THE EAST BAY'S ONLY RECORD STORE FOCUSED ON... PUNK, INDIE ROCK, HARDCORE, GARAGE, METAL, CRUST, OI!, ETC...
423 40TH STREET, OAKLAND
OPEN EVERY DAY 12 TO 7PM
WWW.1234GORECORDS.COM

PeterThomas
FOR HAIR SINCE 19
HAIR CUT SPECIAL
$28

Mel-o-dee COCKTAILS
Karaoke • DJs and Live Music • Trivia Night • Wii
Happy Hour
Mon - Thurs 4-7 • Friday - Sun 1-4
(510) 526 2131
In the El Cerrito Plaza
next to Trader Joe's
GUEST DJ'S ON SUNDAY'S & TUESDAY'S
www.MeloDeeLounge.com

THURSDAY
lofty times
FRIDAY
happy hours
SATURDAY
warm-up
soul knockout
MONDAY
MISSOURI LOUNGE
2600 SAN PABLO AVE. BERKELEY THEMISSOURILOUNGE.COM

Leo's Studio Sale Month
July 11th One-day Specials!
Buy any guitar or bass in stock for msrp.
Bay Area's first demonstration of the new
mixer · factory reps · msrp on demo models or a $25 credit on any other regular price item when you buy a non-demo M-164.
Many more items in-store at msrp.
Call, email or come in for details.
Leo's Pro Audio
5447 Telegraph Ave. Oakland, CA 94609 (510) 653-1000 sales@leosaudio.com

Brook

IN YOUR WORLD

[illegible]

VERY POPULAR TRIPLET MASSAGE

313-555-01[illegible]

IVANA VISITING FROM EUROPE

Sexy Sensual Attractive

25 YRS 5'8 TALL 34D IN/OUT
313-555-0176

Le Fox

313 555 0122

I AM YOUR HAPPINESS CONSULTANT

CALL ME!

888-588-HUNG

happinessconsultants.com

HBO

MELINA

Sensual Goddess

1-[illegible]8-555-01[illegible]2

Motor City Cutiee
Asian & Latina

313-555-0195
DETROIT, MI

ROSALINDA

Naughty Girl Next Door
I Luv To Be Bad
313-555-0193

Shannon

open-minded sweetheart
likes to GET NAUGHTY
313-555-0111

Mia

Get More for Less,
Recession special!!!!
313-555-0121

Lana

Hot
I luv what
I do and
so will YOU
313-555-0184

Shawnika

New to Motor City...
I need you
to help me explore!!!
313.555.0139

Gina

Very
Functional

313-555-0154

DETROIT'S HOTTEST!!!

ASIAN & LATINA

313-555-0124

$10 OFF W/AD

TRY US FREE

OVER 10,000 HORNY GIRLS

CALL NOW

NAUGHTY DETROIT GIRLS

WANT TO GET NASTY
WITH YOU RIGHT NOW!!

1-313-555-011X!

SERENA

I'll do anything
to keep you happy!
[illegible] call

1-313-555-0174

Shy & Curious

313-555-0143

CASSIE

kinky girl
next door always
willing to please

313-555-0156

EAST BAY EXPRESS
Classifieds

Contact Us:
Ads can be placed Mon.–Fri during business hours by calling 510-879-3800 or by Emailing: [illegible]

Online:
[illegible] EastBayExpress.com

Ad Deadline:
[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 425321
The following individual is doing business as [illegible]. Street Address: [illegible] Hayward, CA 94547. [illegible] The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible]/2009.
[illegible]
6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 425326
The following individual is doing business as **Real Time Coast**. [illegible] Oakland, CA 94609 [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County [illegible]/2009.
Real Time Coast
6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 425741
The following individual is doing business as **Gritti Design & Technology**. Street Address: [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94710 [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/10/2009.
Gritti Design & Technology
7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 425915
The following individual is doing business as **The Third Root Wellness**. Street Address: 2506 San Jose Ave, Alameda, CA 94501. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible]/2009.
The Third Root Wellness
7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as **Flycasino Travel**. Street Address: 2532 [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94704. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/22/2009.
Flycasino Travel
6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15/2009

Business Name Statement File # 426234
The following individual is doing business as [illegible]. Street Address: [illegible] CA 94501. [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/23/2009.
[illegible]
7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22/2009

Business Name Statement File # 425908
The following individual is doing business as **Little Sweet Preschool**. Street Address: 21 [illegible] Berkeley, CA [illegible] P.O. Box 9757 Berkeley, CA [illegible] This business is conducted by a General partnership. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/24/2009.
Little Sweet Preschool
7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29/2009

Business Name Statement File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as [illegible]. [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94710. [illegible] This business is conducted by a Corporation. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/25/2009.
[illegible]
7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22/2009

Business Name Statement File # 426448-85
The following individual is doing business as **West Coast Women's Regional Ross Tour & WCWRT**. [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94702. This business is conducted by an Unincorporated Association other than a partnership. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible]/2009.
West Coast Women's Regional Ross Tour & WCWRT
7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22/2009

Need to Publish a Legal Notice?
Advertise in the East Bay Express.
Call 510-879-3777

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case NUMBER: RG09412690
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
Berkeley Courthouse
2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner SARAH HOGAN BROWN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: SARAH HOGAN BROWN to Proposed Name: SARAH [illegible] BROWN. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: AUGUST [illegible], 2009 at [illegible] A.M. in Dept. [illegible], at 2120 [illegible] Street Oakland, CA 94612. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California. Dated: March 16, 2009. Signed: [illegible], Judge of the Superior Court
6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15/2009

PETS/PET SUPPLIES

Broadway Pet Hospital
Open [illegible] Days a Week [illegible]
[illegible]
www.[illegible]
4920 Broadway
Oakland, CA
510-653-0212

Calicott
[illegible]
Sex: Male, Neutered
Age: [illegible]
Description: [illegible]
Berkeley East Bay Humane Society
2700 9th Street, Berkeley
510-845-7735
www.berkeleyhumane.org

Chelsea
Age: [illegible] Sex: Female
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Helena
Age: [illegible] Sex: Female
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Inspector Gadget
Age: [illegible]
Breed: [illegible] Shepherd
[illegible]
Description: [illegible] Inspector Gadget is a wonderful little puppy [illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Jethey
[illegible]
Berkeley East Bay Humane Society
2700 9th Street, Berkeley
510-845-7735
www.berkeleyhumane.org

Little Spot Runs
[illegible]
510-759-3733

Pooty
[illegible]
Berkeley East Bay Humane Society
2700 9th Street, Berkeley
510-845-7735
www.berkeleyhumane.org

Monet
Age: [illegible] Sex: Male
Breed: Australian Shepherd
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Irene
Age: [illegible] Sex: Female
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Lena
Age: [illegible] Sex: Female
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Mate
[illegible] Sex: Male
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

Penelope
Age: [illegible] Sex: Female
[illegible]
East Bay SPCA
8323 Baldwin St., Oakland
510-569-0702

LOOKING FOR CREATIVE WAYS
TO CARRY YOUR BRAND?

Welcome to the future of promotional products!

FAABranding.com offers a wide selection of top quality promotional products, including eco-friendly items.

We offer 100% Made in USA products as well.

PROforma
ONE SOURCE. INFINITE RESOURCES.

Select your item and we'll put your logo on it.
Call 877.542.0820 for Logo Design
FAABRANDING.COM

Adult

ADULT CLUBS

Interracial Kink
Swingers Party
Couples & Select Singles
510-388-5108
www.interracial-kink.org

ADULT SERVICES

Angels: 510-677-2166

Gorgeous Nikita is back in town!

BODY RUBS

Barely Legal
With the Great Massage.
510-830-6197
510-258-7266

"Kelly's Hot Soaking Bubble Bath"
Sensual Face Wash.
Super Moisturizing Body Conditioning. Sweet Friendly
Call for appt. 24/7

PHONE ENTERTAINMENT

Chat, Meet and Flirt
Livelinks.com

Meet Sexy Singles!
Visit MegaMates.com. 18+

TA'LAYAH
FREMONT INCALLS
OUTCALLS 24/7
*82 408-401-2912

Sparkle
Blonde Bombshell
Incall/Outcall
415-946-9200

REMIE
510-692-2954
IN/OUTCALLS

Cute Busty Latina
28 YO-57-38D-0"
SANDRA
*82 510-261-1747

AURELIA
510.776.4450
34C 28 38

TRY FOR FREE
More local singles
510.859.0780
Hundreds of Local Numbers:
1.800.210.1010

GRAND OPENING
New Asian Girls
510.566.8199

Brazil
New Brazilian Porn Star
Available 24/7
*82 650-771-3557

Hot Latino singles!
510.859.0782
Other Cities 1.800.831.1131
Try it the FREE
fonochat

FREE TRIAL
510.859.0797
Ahora en espanol

SE CALL: 510-679-3800

100's of escorts
massage,
parlors,
tvts- ads
Verified,
rated FREE
since 1996
Million+ hits daily!
LOVINGS.COM

INTERRACIAL-KINK • A SEXY PARTY
Weekly Play Parties from 9:00 p.m. until ...
Fri. 7/3: 4th of July Weekend Group Party I
Sat. 7/4: 4th of July Weekend Group Party II
510.388.5108
www.interracial-kink.org

OAKLAND'S
HOTTEST
SINGLES!
CALL NOW! OAKLAND
510-379-7590
livelife VOICE

the night exchange
PRIVATE. EXPLICIT. TALK.
FREE
CALL NOW!
OAKLAND
510-380-8000
nightexchange.com

MEET LOCAL SINGLES
Listen & Reply to Locals FREE!

Oakland	510 343.0101
Concord	925 698 1212
Hayward	510 342 0404
San Francisco	415 430 0000
Santa Rosa	707.583 1000
Alternative Locals	
Oakland	510 343.1122
Concord	925.698 1500
Hayward	510 342.2122
San Francisco	415.430 1199
Santa Rosa	707 583.1112

FREE CODE 9910
MegaMates.com
For other cities call (800) MegaMates

Massage Parlors

AAA Athletic Lean Trained Masseur
[illegible]

Absolutely Radiant
[illegible] Swedish-based massage by experienced masseur with [illegible] hands. [illegible]
Radiant CMT 510-[illegible]

Asian Massage In Walnut Creek
Let us pamper you and make you happy. Experienced, Attractive Masseuses.
Radiant Acupressure
Rear of Palos Verdes Mall, 1 mile from I-680 on Geary Rd
[illegible]

Awesome Massage
[illegible]

Healing Heaven by Asian Female CMT
[illegible]

Healing Touch
Massage [illegible]

Indulge yourself
with the finest massage in the East Bay! Swedish, deep tissue and acupressure. [illegible]

Magic Touch Massage by Asian Man
[illegible]

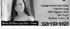
Massage For Gay & Bi Men
[illegible]

Professional Body Massage
[illegible]

Relaxing Swedish Massage By Asian Lady
[illegible]
Call 510-[illegible]-2150

Tired of [illegible]
[illegible]

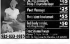
Very Tall East Indian Female, Ex-Model
[illegible]
Se Habla Español


Best Quality Massage
[illegible]
925-933-8828

www.crystalislandmassagespa.com
9AM-2PM Body Massage $40/hr.
Herb Foot Reflexology $20/hr.
Best Deep Massage In Bay FREE STEAM
Shower In VIP Room, Walk-ins Welcome
Clean Facility Excellent Male and Female Masseuse
510 251-9308 1038 5th Ave @ E11 in Oakland

SUNRISE
Massage Therapy Center
Certified & Experienced
[illegible]
Tel 925-256-8378

Rolling Touch
Body Shampoo & Massage
Open 7 Days
110 Railroad Ave Suite F Suisun CA
707.426.4279


Tri-Valley Spa
Oil, Acupressure, Deep Tissue Massage	$45 per hour
Foot Massage	$25 per hour
Hot stone treatment	$55 per hour
Full body scrub, relaxing massage	$50 per hour

Free Steam Room
[illegible] Dublin, CA [illegible]
925-833-8833

LIFE-BALANCE MASSAGE
1829 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Walnut Creek
925-952-9988

Let us pamper you & make you happy.
Experienced, Attractive Masseuses.
ASIAN MASSAGE
in Walnut Creek
Radiant Acupressure
Rear of Palos Verdes Mall,
1 mile from I-680 on Geary Rd
925.988.0188

Relaxation Spa
510-575-7750
Professional Foot Massage
Open 10am to 10pm
[illegible]

New Management
CRYSTAL MASSAGE
510·848·5354
Swedish, Shiatzu, Deep Tissue
[illegible]
[illegible] Midnight

GOOD DAY SPA
[illegible]
20[illegible] University Ave., Berkeley
[illegible]
510-665-7847

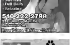
510.548.8819
GRAND OPENING
$45/Hour
$30/Half Hour
BERKELEY
2103 WOOLSEY ST @ SHATTUCK

Best New Asian Girls
[illegible]
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 10 AM - 10 PM
PRIVATE ROOMS • FREE PARKING
[illegible] WALNUT CREEK [illegible]
[illegible]
925-938-3686

GRAND OPENING
ORIENTAL MASSAGE
DEEP TISSUE, ACUPRESSURE, SHIATSU, SWEDISH
(925)939-3628
Bluebell Spa
[illegible] Walnut Creek, CA [illegible]

925 979 9988
NEW ASIAN CMT
Professional Massage
1649 3rd Ave /N.Main St.
WALNUT CREEK

FOREVER DAY SPA
GRAND OPENING!!!
[illegible]
OPEN DAILY
10AM-10PM
(510) 651-1890
[illegible] Cushing Blvd
[illegible] Mall Parkway
**ALL Major credit cards


Lucky Massage
Young Beautiful Asian Girls
- Swedish
- Full Body
- Relaxing

510-222-2798
292[illegible] Hilltop Mall Rd.
Richmond CA
Open 7 Days, 10:00am-1:00am

BRAND NEW IN BERKELEY
GRAND OPENING
[illegible] FOR 1 HOUR MASSAGE - BUY 10 GET 1 FREE
HEALING HANDS MASSAGE
CLEAN, FRESH AND COZY PRIVATE ROOMS.
FREE PARKING
510-525-8328
1315 SAN PABLO AVE.
BERKELEY, CA 94702

Sunflower Qi
[illegible]
510-336-3066
3423 MacArthur Blvd Ste A
Oakland, CA 94619
[illegible]

TABLE SHOWER MASSAGE
CALL US TODAY
925 328 1119
[illegible] San Ramon, CA
[illegible]

THE BEST MASSAGE
San Leandro Health Center
Acupuncture [illegible]
Hot Stone
Open [illegible]
Call: 510-276-6608
[illegible] Hesperian Blvd • San Leandro CA [illegible]

GRAND OPENING
V.I.P. SPA
3917 Telegraph Ave Oakland
510-594-9881

GRAND OPENING!
Sequoia Healing Clinic & Spa
-Body Massage
-Acupressure/Swedish
-Deep/Soft Tissue
WOMEN & MEN WELCOME
1720 Franklin St. Oakland, Ca 94612 Between 17th & 18th
Monday Thru Saturday 10am-8pm • 510-[illegible]
$10 OFF any service

EAST BAY EXPRESS Bulletin Board

To advertise on the Bulletin Board, call 510-879-3808 or
Email Classified@EastBayExpress.com Deadline is Monday 4pm

Earth Circles Counseling Center
Compassionate Professional Therapists. Sliding Scale. Call 510-601-1020
www.EarthCirclesCounseling.com

Massage Body Love 510 303 4367

SensualSense.com 510-451-3773

Learn To Bartend
Thousands trained and placed
$199 Tuition Ends Soon!
Nation's Largest 888-901-TIPS(8477)
www.abcbartending.com

Powerage Amp & Electronic
Specializing in Tube Amplification Vintage to Modern. Service, Repair, Restoration and Mods. Mesa Boogie Authorized Technician. Quality Audio Tubes and Parts.
510-846-3113 tech@pwrage.com
www.pwrage.com Oakland, CA

Medical Marijuana Delivery
Low cost same day service
510-785-3500

Photoshop Expert
Photo alterations, product mock-ups, web blasts. Reasonable rates.
Call Marc 415-577-1972
www.RokanGraphicArts.com

Absolutely Perfect Massage by Richard, CMT
Private, Secure Location, Call 510-207-0545

Support Low Income Women with Cancer
Seeking volunteers 510-601-7660 ext. 31

Sex Taking Over Your Life?
Counseling for men with sexually compulsive behavior. George Collins M.A. 925-932-0201
www.compulsionsolutions.com

Lams Gardening Service and
All Types of Hauling & Clean-up
Free Estimates! 510-508-6878

Get A New Computer
Brand Name laptops and desktops. Bad or No Credit - No Problem. Smallest weekly payments available. Its yours Now!
Call 800-803-8819 (AAN CAN)

Workers Compensation Attorney
For Injured Workers. Experienced Attorney.
Free Consultation 925-170-5410

Guitar/Bass Repair
Free Estimates - Free Pickup & Delivery
Fret Jobs - Mods - Set ups
Restoration and Maintenance
Aaron@MaretGuitars.com 925-595-5501

Need to Publish a Legal Notice?
Advertise it in the East Bay Express
510-879-3776 or
LegalNotices@EastBayExpress.com

Brand New Laptops & Desktops
Bad Credit, No Credit & No Problem
Small Weekly Payments - Order Today and get Free Nintendo Wii game system!
Call Now & 800-840-5439 (AAN CAN)

I now feel like I can confidently refer my patients to a professional and safe dispensary and health services center

– L. Robert Van Ausdle, Ph.D abd, M.S. P.C.

Harborside

1840 Embarcadero
Oakland CA 94606
510 533 0146
harborsidehealthcenter.com
11AM – 8PM • 7 days/week

Medi Cann

Lowest Fee in the State
Free Identification Card

Largest Provider of Medicinal Marijuana Recommendations

Most Trusted by Law Enforcement

We Renew Any Doctor's Recommendation

1.866.632.6627
www.medicannusa.com

Majority Support Taxing Cannabis

56% of California's voters are in favor of taxing and regulating cannabis for adult consumption similar to alcohol and tobacco. Join the effort to get this voter initiative on the California 2010 ballot. It cannot happen without YOUR help.

Paid for by
TaxCannabis2010, PAC

taxcannabis2010.org

Personal Care Attendant Needed
Disabled male seeks personal care attendant for Fridays, approximately 5-9PM.
Call 510-549-1021 for details.

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County
Needs Volunteers to answer our 24 hour crisis lines. No experience necessary - we train.
Call for more details: 510-420-2471

Lose 2-8 lbs Every Week
Eat The Foods You Love!
Have More Energy!
Guaranteed-Natural-Safe
Doctor Recommended!!
Win Cash For Pounds Lost
Call Today 888-235-8890 www.dbvitality.com

Medical Marijuana Evaluations
Professional and Affordable
www.compassionatehealthoptions.com
510-465-0420 or 415-255-1200

MensHealthSpecialist.com
Nambiya Aziz, MHS/CMT 510 663 0106

Fresh Out of School?
Now Hiring Independent, Reliable, Self Starters Looking to Learn, Earn and Travel for the Summer. $500 Sign On Bonus.
Bernadette 888-375-9795 (AAN CAN)

Discover what the media isnt telling you about Oakland's Measure Z.
oaksterdaminfo.com

Maui Vacation Rentals
Call Quam Properties at
1-888-665-1315
www.quamproperties.com

Get Your East Bay Express Gear!
T-Shirts, Mugs, Postcards, Ties, Mouse Pads, Tote Bags, Snowboards, Aprons, Hats, etc.
www.zazzle.com/eastbayexpress

Custom Blend your own Tea
Start by picking Green, Black, White, Rooibos, Honeybush or Yerba Mate. Then add fruits flavors, herbs, flowers and other fun stuff!
Wholesale accounts available
www.customleaf.com

New Dispensary in Richmond
7 Stars Holistic Healing Center
Located in the Pacific East Mall
3288 Pierce St Suite# M119
(2nd floor) Richmond
510 527 STARS (7827)

Cottage Inn At Lake Tahoe
Your place to stay on the West Shore
Charming theme rooms include full breakfast.
cottage@ltol.com 1-800-581-4073
www.thecottageinn.com

Bay Area Singles Country Club
Dance Party Mixer
July 18th at 8pm to 12am
Learn more at
www.ProGuildSocial.com
or call 925-888-4392

SUMMER FUN CONTEST!

ENTER-TO-WIN tons of cool stuff at Amoeba Berkeley, including:

BERKELEY • 2455 Telegraph Ave. • 510-549-1125 ★ SAN FRANCISCO • 1855 Haight St. • 415-831-1200 ★ Parking is easy! We validate: Haight & Stanyan Lot in SF and Sather Gate Garage in Berkeley • AMOEBA.COM